LV Prasad Eye Institute
Committed to excellence and equity in eye care

Annual Activity Report
April 2007 – March 2008

World Health Organization
Collaborating Centre for Prevention of Blindness

LV Prasad Eye Institute is a not-for-profit charitable organization governed by two trusts, Hyderabad Eye Institute & Hyderabad Eye Research Foundation.
The year at

The LVPEI pyramid of service delivery touches all levels of society, from the remote rural village to the busy urban centre. From primary eye care to advanced tertiary, or quaternary centres, we have been able to provide eye care services to thousands of people, when they need it, where they need it, without compromising on quality. **This year, we have been able to reach 819,147 people through these various levels of care; our circle of impact of people’s life and sight continues to grow.**

### Reaching the underserved

#### Community Eye Health
- Villages surveyed: 605
- Community screening programs: 331
- Population covered: 257,070
- Schools screened: 261
- Children screened: 25,157

### Eradicating blindness & visual impairment and referrals

#### Primary Eye Care
- Vision Centres (2.1–4 million population): 43 (nearly 500 villages)
- People served: 63,213

#### Secondary Eye Care
- Service Centres (10–17 million population): 17
- Patients seen: 202,524
- Surgeries performed: 21,602

### Completing the circle – LVPEI Tertiary eye care

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Bhubaneswar</th>
<th>Visakhapatnam</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Patients seen</td>
<td>37,520</td>
<td>37,213</td>
<td>74,733</td>
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<tr>
<td>Surgeries performed</td>
<td>3,602</td>
<td>3,167</td>
<td>6,769</td>
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### Advanced Tertiary (Quaternary) Care

- Patients seen: 196,450
- Surgeries performed: 26,068
Providing a better quality of life*

Vision Rehabilitation Centres 3
Sight Enhancement beneficiaries (Low Vision) 3255
Vision Rehabilitation beneficiaries 4791

Enhancing skills for quality eye care*

Education
Ophthalmologists 142
Other eye care professionals 355
Participants in CME and other programs 1,595

Pushing the frontiers in eye care*

Research
Presentations
  ➢ International 104
  ➢ National 326
Publications 72
Honors and Awards 45

Facilitating the Gift of Sight*

Eye Bank
Corneas harvested 3,396
Used for transplants 1,123
Used for research 1,808
Sent to non-LVPEI surgeons 465

* Numbers reflect activities across the LVPEI Network
L V Prasad Eye Institute, Kallam Anji Reddy Campus, Hyderabad

**Director & Dr Kallam Anji Reddy**  
Distinguished Chair of Ophthalmology  
G Chandrasekhar

**Clinical Services**

**Cornea & Anterior Segment**
Virender S Sangwan  
Prashant Garg  
Pravin V Krishna  
Somasheila Murthy  
Rishi Swarup  
Varsha Rath  
Sunita Chaurasia  
R Muralieedhara

**Bausch & Lomb Contact Lens Centre**
Pravin V Krishna  
Varsha Rath  
P Ruby Kala  
Preeji Shyamsunder  
M Vinod Kumar

**Laser Refractive Surgery Centre**
Prashant Garg  
Pravin V Krishna  
Somasheila Murthy  
Varsha Rath

**VST Centre for Glaucoma Care**
G Chandra Sekhar  
Anil K Mandal  
Rajul Parikh  
Sririta Senathil  
BL Harsha

**Smt Kanuri Santhamma Retina Vitreous Centre**
Subhadra Jalali  
Ajit B Majji  
Annie Mathai  
Raja Narayanan  
Rajeev K Reddy  
Himanshu Deshmukh

**Uveitis & Ocular Immunology**
Virender S Sangwan  
Somasheila Murthy

**Ophthalmic Plastic Surgery, Orbit, Ocular Oncology and Ocular Prosthesis**
Santosh G Honavar  
Ramesh Murthy  
Milind N Naik  
Vijay Anand P Reddy  
Kuldeep Rajad  
D Deepa Rani  
Vikas Menon  
Jacob Koshy

**Strabismus**
Kekunnaya Ramesh  
Ramesh Murthy

**Neuro-ophthalmology**
Kekunnaya Ramesh  
Ramesh Murthy

**Jasti V Ramanamma Children’s Eye Care Centre**
Anil K Mandal  
Santosh G Honavar  
Subhadra Jalali  
Kekunnaya Ramesh  
Ramesh Murthy

**Comprehensive Ophthalmology**
Rohit Khanna

**Optometry**
J Ganesh Babu  
Deepak K Bagga  
Bhaji Bee  
Bharat  
Rituparna Ghoshal  
Janitha  
Hari Krishna  
Anjul Kumar  
Vijay Kumar  
M Vinod Kumar  
SPVR Naresh  
Preeji  
Sethumathth  
D Srikanth  
Sumant  
T Shyam Sunder  
D Swathi  
Veerenderanath  
Uday

**Internal Medicine**
Archana Bharagav  
Fazal Hussain

**Anesthesiology Services**
C Jagadishwar  
PG Koshy  
MG Prasad  
S Ravinder  
CVM Reddy  
P Sreedhar  
P Sriamulu

**Ramayamman International Eye Bank**
Usha Gopinathan  
Prashant Garg

**Vision Rehabilitation Centres**
Meera & L B Deshpande Centre for Sight Enhancement and  
Dr PRK Prasad Centre for Rehabilitation of Blind & Visually Impaired

**Prof Brien Holden Eye Research Centre**
Director and Distinguished Chair of Eye Research  
D Balasubramanian

**Jhaveri Microbiology Centre**
Savitri Sharma Das  
G Ashok Kumar Reddy

**Saroja A Rao Immunology Laboratory**
Savitri Sharma Das  
G Ashok Kumar Reddy

**Kallam Anji Reddy Molecular Genetics Laboratory**
Chitra Kannabiran  
Subhabrata Chakrabarti  
Inderjeet Kaur

**Ophthalmic Pathology**
Geeta K Vemuganti

**Sudhakar & Sreekant Ravi Stem Cell Biology Laboratory**
Geeta K Vemuganti  
Virender S Sangwan  
Yashoda Ghanekar

**Education Centre**
Director  
& Dr G Chandra Sekhar  
Distinguished Chair of Education  
Prashant Garg

**LVP-Zeiss International Academy of Advanced Ophthalmic Education**
Srnavi Kaza

**Bausch & Lomb School of Optometry**
Coen GA de Jong

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**ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT 2007-2008**

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**Hyderabad**

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**Bhubaneswar**
Efficiency

L V Prasad Eye Institute, GMRV Campus, Visakhapatnam

Director
Merle Fernandes

Cornea & Anterior Segment
Merle Fernandes
Meena Lakshmipathy

Glaucoma
P V K S Varma

Retina & Vitreous
Avinash Pathengay

Contact Lens & Refractive Surgery
Merle Fernandes
Meena Lakshmipathy
Rekha Guntur

Ophthalmic Plastic Surgery, Orbit & Ocular Oncology
Roshmi Gupta

Uveitis
Avinash Pathengay

Optometry
P Anand
Rekha Guntur
M Yugraj

Nimmagadda Prasad Children’s Eye Care Centre
Merle Fernandes
P V K S Varma
Roshmi Gupta

Bob Ohlson Centre for Sight Enhancement
Rekha Guntur

Mohsin Eye Bank
Merle Fernandes
Meena Lakshmipathy

Anesthesia Services
Zohra Mehdi

Administration
Joji Prasad
K Lokesh
D Ch Lakshmi

Visakhapatnam
Board Members

**Hyderabad Eye Institute**

Chair
Dr Gullapalli N Rao
Distinguished Chair of Eye Health
L V Prasad Eye Institute, Hyderabad

Mr T R Prasad
Former Cabinet Secretary
Government of India
Visakhapatnam

Justice B P Jeevan Reddy
Former Justice, Supreme Court of India
Hyderabad

Prof Palle Rama Rao
Former Secretary, Dept. of Science & Technology
Government of India
Distinguished Professor, International Advanced Research Centre for Powder Metallurgy & New Materials, Hyderabad

Dr M Rammohan Rao
Dean, Indian School of Business
Hyderabad

Mr Ramesh Prasad
Managing Director, Prasad Film Laboratories Ltd
Hyderabad

Dr K Anji Reddy
Chairman, Dr Reddy’s Laboratories Ltd
Hyderabad

Mrs Sudha Murthy
Chairperson, Infosys Foundation
Bengaluru

Dr R S Arole
Director, Comprehensive Rural Health Project
Jamkhed, Ahmednagar District, Maharashtra

Mr N Prasad
Executive Chairman, Matrix Laboratories Limited
Hyderabad

Dr Sangeeta Wagh
CMD, Dr Sandeep Wagh Eye Centre
Pune

Dr Ravindranath
Chairman, Global Hospitals
Hyderabad

Mr G Mallikarjuna Rao
Chairman, GMR Group
Bengaluru

Dr G Chandra Sekhar
Director, L V Prasad Eye Institute
Hyderabad

**Hyderabad Eye Research Foundation**

Chair
Dr F C Kohli
Chairman Emeritus
Tata Consultancy Services Ltd
Mumbai

Secretary & Treasurer
Dr Gullapalli N Rao
Distinguished Chair of Eye Health
L V Prasad Eye Institute
Hyderabad

Dr Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw
Chairperson & Managing Director
The Biocon Group of Companies
Bengaluru

Prof K Srinath Reddy
President
Public Health Foundation of India
New Delhi

Mr B Ramalinga Raju
Chairman
Satyam Computer Services Ltd
Hyderabad

Dr Seyed Hasnain
Vice Chancellor
University of Hyderabad
Hyderabad

Lt Gen D Raghunath
Principal Executive
Sir Dorabji Tata Centre for Research in Tropical Medicine
Indian Institute of Science Campus
Bengaluru

Dr Mohan Rao
Scientist (Deputy Director)
Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology
Hyderabad

Dr G Chandra Sekhar
Director
L V Prasad Eye Institute
Hyderabad

Prof D Balasubramanian
Director – Research
L V Prasad Eye Institute
Hyderabad
In the past two years, the LVPEI system has grown almost exponentially, to three tertiary centres, 7 secondary centres and 49 primary care centres spread across the districts of Andhra Pradesh and Orissa. This growth has posed a challenge not only in terms of turning ideas to reality by creating infrastructure where none existed, bringing eye health to places where no health care existed, and creating the human resources to people the network. The other major challenge was in terms of governance, in establishing policies, structures and procedures that would ensure that the core values of LVPEI, as it was established in Hyderabad in 1987, would be built into the DNA of this growing network.

A process of structural rationalization that began in late 2006 finally settled into a system of assigned roles and responsibilities across our network. The new structure, which distributes functional authority and responsibility across the three tertiary centres, was realized in late 2007 and provided the mechanism for dialogue and discussion leading to the formulation of LVPEI’s five-year strategic action plan. The structure also allows for decision makers to think organically and systemically, to evolve ideas and implementation schedules that take into account the needs and the strengths of a network rather than a single campus. Monthly meetings of all functional leaders allow for sharing of experiences, ideas and plans. In patient care, education and research, it has meant that function-specific think tanks study and recommend action in a manner that maximizes resource utilization across the network without duplication.

With the Village Vision complexes continuing to multiply, and activities at the tertiary centres expanding, we will continue to face challenges in all these areas, but this distributed leadership approach promises to provide the means and the competence to meet these challenges.
Our Vision
To create excellent and equitable eye care systems that reach all those in need

Against the backdrop of organizational and environmental change, we recognize the need to constantly re-think our progress and make changes in our course that best address new and emerging needs in eye care in the developing world.

To bring such a vision to bear on planning for growth in the individual operational areas within LVPEI, and to consider any alteration in our paths, a brainstorming exercise took place on January 10 and 11, 2008, involving about 25 persons from across senior management, representing all areas of activity. The task was to consider growth areas over the next five years and to set long-term direction. Participants discussed issues in five broad areas:

- Patient Care
- Education
- Management and Organizational Development
- Research
- Community Health

Groups were charged with identifying five key objectives that would be the focus of activity in the short and medium term, with specific goals and a road map for the next five years.

Our key goals for the next five years are to achieve

- Branding as a cutting edge institute
- Higher quality service and education
- Breakthrough research and products
- Impact making community eye health programs
- The ability to catalyze and affect eye care globally

In each area of activity, specific overarching goals have been framed that set a clear direction and emphasis.
Our Mission

The mission of L V Prasad Eye Institute is to be a centre of excellence in eye care services, basic and clinical research into eye diseases and vision-threatening conditions, training, product development, and rehabilitation for those with incurable visual disability, with a focus on extending equitable and efficient eye care services to underserved populations in the developing world.

Vision 2012

**In patient care**, we will achieve
- substantial improvement in the quality of service delivery at all levels
- improvement in patient as well as provider satisfaction
- optimal utilization of time, energy, resources and expertise to augment patient care volume

**In education**, we will
- achieve recognition as a premier centre of education in all areas of eye care planning, management and service delivery
- share expertise and experience in eye health across the developing world
- create the human resources needed to eliminate avoidable blindness and manage vision impairment

**In research**, we will
- seek to understand and address selected diseases and genetic conditions, and
- focus on generating and applying new knowledge in areas such as nanoscience and gene delivery

Every project undertaken will be translational in nature – starting from the needs of the patient on the bedside to the laboratory bench and ultimately to the community.

**In community eye health**, we will apply our experience in primary eye health to
- build a stronger and wider network of eye care service delivery across India and other parts of the world
- share expertise by consultancy, education and planning
- advocate at all levels for improved systems of eye care
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NB: Data for period under review. Some other information (Faculty, Board members) updated as at the time of print.
Foreword

LVP is well poised to make significant contributions to tackling the numerous emerging challenges in eye care and prevention of blindness at both the national and global levels. ‘Comprehensive Eye Care’, the foundation on which our Institute started 21 years ago, has now become a major theme in discussions and an articulated goal for many eye care organizations around the world. Our model of delivery at all levels of care is based on sound principles of quality care and a clear delineation of functions. Referral patterns, efficiency, cost effectiveness, accessibility to people of all social strata in the geographical regions we cover, without compromising our vision of excellence with equity and efficiency constitute the core elements. This model is now getting replicated in many parts of India and the world.

To prepare for the ever increasing demand for our services, we have initiated several processes to make the organization stronger, more streamlined, and focused, following a “Vision Retreat” in early 2008. A road map for the next 5 years with clear goals was developed, with well defined strategies to achieve these goals. This, along with a complete audit of all our processes by internal teams as well as external groups, a more rigorous quality assurance system, and a brand audit will serve as mechanisms that will strengthen our structure and give us pointers toward serving patients better and achieving our other strategic goals.

While the year saw many exciting developments, a few clearly stand out. The inauguration of the Champalimaud Translational Centre for Eye Research and the annual Antonio Champalimaud Research Symposium have enhanced the partnership with the Foundation significantly and boosted our capabilities in stem cell and molecular genetics research. The number of collaborative international clinical trials under way at LVPEI has multiplied.

On the Education front our proposal, in collaboration with the University of New South Wales of Australia, for an off-campus Master’s program in Community Eye Health was approved by that University. This will be open for admission to candidates from all over the world. The existing programs were expanded and enhanced. More members of the staff were given the opportunity to pursue doctoral programs through our participation in the Vision Cooperative Research Centre, Australia.

We were particularly delighted with the progress of our work in the most underserved areas. Our seventh secondary Service Centre was opened and the community’s response has helped the growth of this centre take
place at a record pace. Within 6 months, the entire complement of 10 Vision Centres linked to this were launched, thus completing our **fifth Village Vision Complex** – a combination of one secondary Service Centre with 10 Vision Centres for primary care. We are now developing the next three such complexes simultaneously. Local philanthropists will be providing 100 per cent funding for these three complexes, thus enabling us to create a real model of health care with “**complete community ownership**”. We are grateful to these generous individuals for ushering in this new era in the evolution of our Institute and enabling us to evolve this exciting model for health care.

At the individual level, members of the LVP family continue to make a mark and win laurels from local to global. We maintain the record for the highest number of awards from the American Academy of Ophthalmology from any Indian institution, due to the brilliant performance of our faculty in getting their work accepted for presentation at the Academy’s annual meetings. We are particularly gratified by the recognition received by some of our younger faculty at the American Academy, and of course the continuing performance of our senior researchers at the most prestigious meetings such as the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology, the details of which are listed in this report.

During this past year again we have benefited immensely from the munificence of many friends of LVPEI from around the world. We are witnessing a welcome development in this process of more support coming from within India, which augurs well for future resource mobilization.

We have new additions to our Boards, people who are eminent in their fields of endeavor and are inspiring examples of leadership, entrepreneurship, scholarship and philanthropy. We are thankful that they have become part of LVPEI. The Institute has continued to grow and the support and guidance of each of these individuals makes it what it is today.

Our impact is intensified through the work of our alumni around the country and the globe, from America to Australia and from China to Nigeria. They are truly our Ambassadors.

Let me also place on record, on behalf of each member of the LVPEI family, our deepest gratitude to all those who have given us the privilege of serving them, people from all corners of India and some from other parts of the world.

Gullapalli N Rao
Chair, Board of Trustees
A Year of Achievements

Hyderabad campus named in honor of Kallam Anji Reddy

The Banjara Hills campus of L V Prasad Eye Institute, Hyderabad, has been renamed the Kallam Anji Reddy Campus, in honour of Dr Kallam Anji Reddy, Chairman, Dr Reddy’s Laboratories (a leading pharmaceutical corporation). The occasion was marked by a simple ceremony held at the Institute on June 22, 2007, in the presence of select guests and LVPEI’s faculty and staff.

Dr Anji Reddy has remained a valued friend and generous patron of LVPEI since his association with the Institute began 13 years ago. The Institute’s molecular genetics laboratory is named in his honor and he was the first to pledge 10 percent to the Silver Jubilee Endowment Fund. His support is integral to the Institute’s realization of its vision. Currently on the Board of Hyderabad Eye Institute, Dr Reddy was formerly Chairperson of Hyderabad Eye Research Foundation. Hyderabad Eye Institute and Hyderabad Eye Research Foundation are LVPEI’s two governing bodies.

New surgical centre for Hyderabad

On July 9, 2007, Mr Kishore K Kothapalli, Managing Director of Modern Roofings Limited, pledged his support for setting up a state-of-the-art surgical centre at LVPEI’s Kallam Anji Reddy Campus in Banjara Hills, Hyderabad. The centre will be called the Kothapalli Rama Rao Ophthalmic Surgical Centre in honor of Mr Kothapalli’s father, Chairman of Nidadavole Lions Eye Hospital, an affiliate of LVPEI.

The new surgical centre is the first in a series of projects undertaken to mark two decades of LVPEI’s operations. It will have 16 state-of-the-art operating rooms, preoperative areas and a central sterilization facility, with the capacity to perform 40,000 complex surgical procedures annually of the highest international standards. “LVPEI’s tradition of providing nearly 50% of surgical procedures free of cost will continue with this centre,” affirmed Dr Gullapalli N Rao, Chairman of LVPEI.

(We regret to note that Mr Kothapalli Rama Rao passed away on July 10, 2008. We have lost a valued friend and supporter. A larger than life personality, Mr Rama Rao will be sorely missed. See Our Support, page 108)
Nimmagadda Prasad Children’s Eye Care Centre
On July 7, 2007, L V Prasad Eye Institute, GMR Varalakshmi Campus, Visakhapatnam, inaugurated a dedicated children’s eye care facility – the Nimmagadda Prasad Children’s Eye Care Centre, set up with generous support from Mr Nimmagadda Prasad, founder and Vice-Chairman, Matrix Laboratories Limited. The new initiative in children’s eye health will focus on preventing childhood blindness and creating awareness about the causes of childhood blindness through school screening programs. The distinguished guests on the occasion included Mrs Lalitha Raghuram, India Country Director, Operation Eyesight Universal; Dr Prema Padmanabhan, Sankara Nethralaya, Chennai; Mr L M Laxmana Murthy, Chief Administrative Officer, GMR Varalakshmi Foundation, Rajam; as well as Mr Naresh Kumar, Mr Appala Raju, Mr Raghu Rayala, Dr Madhavi – all early supporters in the setting up of Visakhapatnam LVPEI.

Mr Prasad’s long-term commitment to eye care in the region has also led to the collaborative Nimmagadda Prasad – LVPEI Children’s Eye Health Initiative. This initiative will drive LVPEI Visakhapatnam to set up primary and community eye care programs with a special focus on children’s eye care. The fund will also help support 1000 non-paying complex surgeries in children annually, as well as the development of the Nimmagadda Prasad Children’s Eye Care Centre. LVPEI Visakhapatnam covers a population of 15-20 million in the northern districts of Andhra Pradesh. (See also page 33)

First DNA chip for diagnosing eye infections
L V Prasad Eye Institute was a proud partner in the New Millennium Indian Technology Leadership Initiative (NMITLI) program for developing the world’s first DNA chip for the diagnosis of eye infections. The project was chaired by Dr D Balasubramanian, Director of Research, LVPEI, and included Dr Savitri Sharma Das and Mr Roby J Jose from Jhaveri Microbiology Laboratory, LVPEI. Sankar Nethralaya (Chennai), All India Institute of Medical Sciences (New Delhi), and the Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (Hyderabad) also participated in this initiative, held under the aegis of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), Government of India. Three chips (Keratoconjunctivitis, Retinitis and Uveitis) for detecting various bacteria, fungi, viruses and parasites causing eye infections have been developed. Dr T Ramasamy, Director General of CSIR, felicitated all the scientists involved in the project at the product launch on September 22, 2007. The diagnostic DNA chip for ocular infections is the first in the world.
Champalimaud Translational Research Centre inaugurated

The Champalimaud Translational Centre for Eye Research (C-TRACER), a world-class translational research facility devoted to the analysis, management and treatment of selected eye disorders, has been set up at LVPEI, Hyderabad. The facility was inaugurated by Smt. D Purandeswari, Minister of State for Human Resource Development, Government of India, on January 30, 2008. C-TRACER has been set up in partnership with the Antonio Champalimaud Foundation of Portugal and will enhance the vision research program of LVPEI’s Prof Brien Holden Eye Research Centre. The Indian government’s Department of Biotechnology has also given a 5-year grant to support this work.

A seminar on translational research was held to mark the event, with presentations on different aspects and processes of translational research. Prof N K Ganguly, UNESCO Centre for Translational Research and Training, New Delhi, delivered the First Champalimaud Lecture on ‘Translational Research: Scenario and Opportunities in India’. Prof Robert Folberg of the University of Illinois Chicago campus, Chicago, USA, explained how technology could be used to maximize the impact of distance education in ophthalmology. Prof Jost Jonas from the University of Heidelberg, Germany, presented the results and policy implications of the Beijing Eye Study, while Dr Miguel Castelo-Branco from Coimbra, Portugal, described a model of genotype-phenotype correlations in ocular disease. Prof Brien Holden, CEO, Institute of Eye Research, Australia, detailed the progress of translational research in the area of refractive error. LVPEI faculty Chitra Kannabiran, Geeta Vemuganti and Virender Sangwan described the work done at LVPEI in molecular genetics and stem cells.

Later during the inaugural ceremony, Dr Gullapalli N Rao, Chairman, LVPEI, traced the history and development of LVPEI while Prof. Balasubramanian, Director, Research, spoke of the history of translational research in India. Prof Brien Holden reflected upon the 21-year association between LVPEI and the Institute for Eye Research, Sydney. Dr Leonor Beleza, President of the Champalimaud Foundation, recalled the history of the partnership between the Foundation and LVPEI. The Ambassador of Portugal to India, Mr Luis Filipe de Castro Mendes, and Smt Purandeswari also addressed the invitees.

Sixth satellite centre of LVPEI inaugurated

Swarna Bharat Eye Centre, the sixth satellite centre of LVPEI, was inaugurated on July 1, 2007. The Swarna Bharat Campus Venkatachalam (named after the donor) is located in Nellore in Andhra Pradesh.

Dr P C Kesavan Kutty Nair, Chairman, Medical Council of India, lit the lamp to inaugurate the centre. Mr Venkaiah Naidu of the Swarna Bharat Trust donated the space and presided over the event. Dr Kakarla Subba Rao, Director, Nizam’s Institute of Medical Sciences, and Dr G N Rao, were also present. The Swarna Bharat Eye Centre started outpatient services the very next day, with 70 patients coming on the first day.
New Vision Centres for Markapuram and Adilabad

In March 2008, four Vision Centres linked to the secondary care Sudhakar and Sreekanth Ravi Eye Centre (SSREC) in Markapuram, Prakasam district, Andhra Pradesh, were inaugurated. These are Darshi, Kurichedu, Podili and Cumbham. Support for setting up the Vision Centres was provided by the Lavelle Fund for the Blind, Inc., New York, USA. Local community members donated space for the Centres.

Two Vision Centres at Talamadugu and Gudihathnur, linked to the secondary Seshanna Chennawar Eye Centre (SCEC) in Adilabad district, Andhra Pradesh, were launched on March 28, 2008. These have been set up with support from the Indian Society of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, USA. This brings the total number of Vision Centres set up with their support to seven. Mr Lawrence Lyerly and Ms Toni Lyerly represented the Church, and said they were happy to be part of LVPEI’s primary eye care network development.

The Jainath Vision Centre was inaugurated on July 5, 2007. In addition to Mr Lawrence Lyerly and Mrs Toni Lyerly, Zilla Parishad Chairman Mr B Ramanna, Mr P Asha Reddy and Mr Addi Deva Reddy, both former Jainath village presidents, also attended the program. Jainath is expected to serve 15 villages with a population of 48,500 and is attached to the Seshanna Chennawar Eye Centre (SCEC).

LVPEI has received support from The Indian Society of the Church of Jesus Christ and Latter-day Saint Charities, USA, to set up eight Vision Centres, all connected to SCEC, Adilabad. They have also supported the Institute in several other ways, including donating 16 wheelchairs for use by patients at the three tertiary and secondary centres, and publication of material for the Vision Rehabilitation Centres. (See also page 46)

Aesthetics Clinic launched at LVPEI

LVPEI, Hyderabad, launched its Aesthetics and Facial Plastic Surgery Services on March 30, 2008. The first such comprehensive cosmetic clinic to be established in an eye institute in India, the Aesthetics Clinic is equipped with an exclusive evaluation suite with skin analyser, professional digital photography, Botox and filler injection facility, skin lasers, and a surgical suite for facial cosmetic procedures including liposuction, fat transfer, and fat cryopreservation.

The Clinic will provide comprehensive treatment for a wide range of cosmetic needs of the face and neck, from simple skin problems to complex facial procedures, under one roof. It has been set up in collaboration with SkinCity, a cosmetic dermatology centre in Pune. On the occasion of the launch of the Aesthetic Clinic, a Face Forum was conducted to create awareness about the cosmetic applications of lasers, surgeries, and injections.

LVPEI collaboration with Tianjin Eye Hospital

An agreement for mutual collaboration was signed on April 20, 2007, between Tianjin Eye Hospital, Tianjin, China (a Centre of Excellence) and L V Prasad Eye Institute. The hospitals will collaborate in the areas of clinical care, training, staff exchange, research and blindness prevention. Seen in the picture from left: Mr E Fengming (Vice Chief, Division of Veterinary Medicine Administration of Tianjin Public Health Bureau), Mr Li Jie (Director, Tianjin Eye Hospital), Dr Rohit Khanna (LVPEI), Dr Gullapalli N Rao (LVPEI), Mrs Zhang Junfang (Deputy Mayor of Tianjin), Mrs Tian Huiguang (Deputy Director, Tianjin Public Health Bureau), Mr Wang Shuhua (Vice Minister, Foreign Affairs Office of Tianjin), Mrs Yuan Shuling (Chief, Division of Science and Technology of Tianjin Public Health Bureau) and Prof Zhao Kanxing (Director, Tianjin Eye Hospital).
**Children’s Eye Care Centre celebrates 10th anniversary**

The Institute commemorated the 10th anniversary of the Jasti V Ramanamma Children’s Eye Care Centre (CECC) on December 1-2, 2007. The Centre, set up in 1997, was the first such dedicated centre in Asia and the developing world. It has state-of-the-art facilities for integrated management of all pediatric eye diseases, and was set up with support from Dr Jasti V Rattaiah and Smt V Ramanamma, with a matching grant from Sight Savers International, UK. The Centre has received substantial support from ORBIS International, USA, and recently ITC Limited, India, for the expansion and upgradation of the facilities.

To mark the occasion a comprehensive scientific symposium, ‘Eye on the Future’, on eye health and eye disorders of children was held on December 1-2, 2007. The international faculty included Dr Haroon Awan, Childhood Blindness in Pakistan, Sight Savers International, Pakistan; Dr Bronwyn Bateman, Director, Rocky Mountain Lions Eye Institute, Denver, USA; Dr Hannah Faal, Senior Eye Care Programme Consultant, West Africa, Sight Savers International, Ghana; Dr Clare Gilbert, Reader in International Centre for Eye Health (ICEH), London, UK; Dr John Lee, Moorfields Eye Hospital, UK; Dr Marilyn Miller, University of Illinois, Chicago, USA; Dr Ken Nischal, Great Ormond St. Hospital for Children, London, UK; Dr R Pararajasegaram, consultant for Program for Blindness and Deafness, WHO, Sri Lanka; and Dr Abu Raihan, Country director, ORBIS International, Bangladesh.

(Also in Seminars and Workshops, page 76)

On the evening of December 1, 2007, a commemorative ceremony was held where Dr Gullapalli N Rao, Chairman, LVPEI, welcomed the guests and Dr Anil Mandal, Head, CECC, spoke of CECC’s 10-year journey. Dr Hannah Faal presented commemorative plaques to representatives of Dr Jasti Rattaiah and Smt Ramanamma, Sight Savers International, ORBIS International and ITC Limited. The program ended with a mandolin recital by Dr BL Harsha, LVPEI faculty, and a sitar recital by Dr Akhila, wife of Dr Ramesh Kekunnaya, organizing secretary of the symposium.

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**Nobel Laureate Sir Martin Evans visits**

LVPEI was honored by the visit of stem cell biology pioneer Sir Martin John Evans of Cardiff University, winner of the 2007 Nobel Prize for Medicine. Seen in the picture are Prof D Balasubramanian, Director, Research, and other members of the LVPEI research faculty. February 8, 2008.
World Sight Day 2007

LVPEI commemorated World Sight Day 2007 with a three-day program, inaugurated by Telugu actor Navadeep at PRASADS IMAX, Hyderabad, on October 11, 2007. Setting an example by signing an eye donation pledge card, Navadeep promised to motivate his family and friends to make a similar commitment. The World Sight Day event is part of VISION 2020: The Right to Sight, WHO’s global initiative against avoidable blindness. Present on the occasion were Mr Ramesh Prasad, Managing Director, Prasad Media Corporation Ltd. and Mr Ashish Vohra, EVP & Head of Commercial Mass Market, Fullerton India Credit Company Ltd. (FICCL).

Mr Ramesh Prasad said, “The Prasad family is always pleased to be associated with LVPEI in its drive to increase public awareness about eye care and eye diseases”. Mr Vohra said, “It is our corporate social responsibility to spread awareness about eye diseases and assist LVPEI in its effort to eradicate avoidable blindness.” The event was supported by FICCL and Prasad Media.

The program included a poster gallery on eye diseases and eye health, display and sale of low vision devices, demo of special software for the visually impaired, an eye donation information center, and sale of greeting cards designed by visually challenged children. Free vision screening was done for visitors and many pledged to donate their eyes.

Foundation Day celebrations

The Institute celebrated its 21st Foundation Day on October 17, 2007. The day also marked the formal inauguration of the live satellite linking with video conferencing facility between LVPEI’s three tertiary centres – Hyderabad, Bhubaneswar, and Visakhapatnam. The program started with an annual update by the three LVPEI campus Directors – Dr G Chandrasekhar, Hyderabad; Dr Taraprasad Das, Bhubaneswar; and Dr PVKS Varma, Visakhapatnam. Dr Gullapalli N Rao, Chairman, LVPEI and Distinguished Chair of Eye Health, spoke of LVPEI’s plans and initiatives for the future. Guest of Honor Dr Suzanne Gilbert, Director, Center for Innovation in Eye Care, Seva Foundation, USA, spoke from an insider-outsider’s perspective applauding LVPEI’s standards of quality and equity, which, she said, were not very common in the world, adding “LVPEI lives this vision!”

Dr Debbie Sweeny, CEO, Vision CRC, Sydney, Australia, outlined the high standards Vision CRC demands of its collaborators and how LVPEI continues to meet these standards. The collaborators are the best in what they do, have a good scientific output, possess essential core skills and knowledge, and contribute critically to outcomes. Dr M Rammohan Rao, Dean, Indian School of Business, Hyderabad, delivered the guest lecture.

As a run-up to the annual day, games and competitions were conducted for the staff. The evening ended with a rousing cultural program with a fashion show, songs, dances and skits.

Education Day

The Institute’s fourth Education Day was celebrated on October 1, 2007, with an auditorium full of students and parents. Prof V S Rao, Director, off-campus programs and Director designate of Birla Institute of Technology and Science (BITS), Pilani, presented degree certificates to 20 outgoing Bachelor of Science in optometry students, while 3 students received Diploma in Optometry (DOT) certificates from FOREC, New Delhi. Chief guest Prof Barry Colin, former Dean, School of Optometry, University of New South Wales, Australia, delivered the Education Day address on ‘What is the future of optometry and optometrists’. (See also page 71)
Teleconnectivity across LVPEI network
Teleconnectivity across L V Prasad Eye Institute’s three tertiary care centres was formally inaugurated on October 17, 2007. As a first step, the Education Centres at Visakhapatnam and Bhubaneswar have been linked to Hyderabad, creating a video conferencing facility for tele-education. This technological integration will immediately double the training capacity of L V Prasad Eye Institute. The distance between the 3 centres is now traversed by a mere phone call, a screen and sound system.

Sudhakar and Sreekanth Ravi Eye Centre, Markapur
The Sudhakar and Sreekanth Ravi Eye Centre at Markapur was inaugurated on January 3, 2008, at a colourful well-attended ceremony. Chief guest Smt Daggubati Purandeswari, Minister of State for Human Resource Development, Government of India, cut the ribbon. Launching the Sudhakar and Sreekanth Ravi Eye Health Initiative in Prakasam district, Mr Sreekanth Ravi said he was proud to be associated with this initiative in his home district in Andhra Pradesh. Recalling his first meeting with Dr Rao, he said the Ravi brothers’ support for LVPEI had given the family tremendous satisfaction, whether it was for establishing the stem cell laboratory or the outpatient facility at LVPEI, Hyderabad. The new Eye Health Initiative will be a comprehensive eye health program for the district starting from prevention and improving uptake of eye health services up to rehabilitation.

Dr Gullapalli N Rao, Chairman, LVPEI, spoke of his vision for the Institute’s seventh satellite centre, the Markapur eye centre, urging the large gathering to make optimal use of the facility. He spoke of the initiatives taken by LVPEI, in collaboration with the district health administration, for the detection of diabetes and diabetic retinopathy. LVPEI’s stem cell laboratory is named the Sudhakar & Sreekanth Ravi Stem Cell Biology Laboratory in honor of the Ravi brothers’ contribution. The townspeople also honored Mr Sreekanth Ravi with shawls. (See also page 48)

20th Patient Care Day Celebrations
The 20th anniversary of LVPEI’s Patient Care Day was joyously celebrated on June 1, 2007. The program began with the lighting of the lamp by housekeeping staff members Mrs. Bhanu and Mrs. Kamalamma. The second patient to be seen at LVPEI in 1987, Mr Bulusu Ramesh (picture on right), was present on the occasion – then a boy, he is now a young man. Representatives from LVPEI’s various arms presented updates on the Institute’s progress over the last two decades – patient care, education and training, community outreach, research, eye banking, and vision rehabilitation. The evening concluded with a cultural program.
Conferences

International symposium on electrophysiology of vision
The XLV annual symposium of the International Society for Clinical Electrophysiology of Vision (ISCEV) was held from August 25-29, 2007, at the Taj Krishna and hosted by LVPEI. A total of 237 participants interacted during the meeting. There were 188 scientific delegates from 24 countries across 5 continents, who attended the scientific sessions. The program included high quality 55 paper presentations, 3 keynote addresses, 39 posters and an award lecture. The trade exhibition had 15 trade display counters of major international electrophysiology equipment manufacturers.

Workshop on Visual Electrophysiology
A Hands-on Workshop on Visual Electrophysiology was conducted at LVPEI, Hyderabad, on August 24-25, 2007, with 87 registered participants. The workshop included lectures and practical and hands-on experience in visual electrophysiology. Seven faculty members from five countries shared their expertise with the delegates in 17 didactic lectures. Eight manufacturers set up equipment stalls for use during the course.

The cultural program included a presentation on the growth of LVPEI, an introduction to 2000-year-old Indian Buddhist architecture, a glimpse into Nobel Laureate Rabindranath Tagore’s poetic life and a folk dance recital. The evening ended with a Kashmiri food festival.

Indian Eye Research Group meeting
The 16th annual meeting of the Indian Eye Research Group, held at LVPEI, Hyderabad, from July 28 – 29, 2007, was a huge success. Over 80 external delegates from various institutions in India attended the meeting, which comprised paper and poster sessions with 42 free papers, 42 posters, and 3 invited talks. Dr Samuel Zigler Jr from John Hopkins University delivered the Bireswar Chakrabarti Memorial Oration. Four participants received the Amjad Rahi prize for best presentation, two each for free paper and poster presentations. Travel fellowships were given to eight participants.
Congenital glaucoma meet facilitates interaction

The 13th Association of Parents of Childhood Glaucoma (APCG) annual meeting was conducted on November 29, 2007. The support group for parents of children with congenital glaucoma is an initiative of Dr Anil K Mandal, Head, Jasti V Ramanamma Children’s Eye Care Centre. This year too, the event attracted parents with children of all ages. Starting with a talk by Dr Mandal, the heart of the program was the shared experiences of parents and cultural items presented spontaneously by the children. All the children received gifts from Milmet Pharmaceuticals Private Limited.

Cutting Edge 2007

Cutting Edge 2007, the joint annual meeting of the Oculoplastics Association of India (OPAI) and the Asia Pacific Society of Ophthalmic Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery (APSOPRS) was held at Hyderabad International Convention Centre, Hyderabad, December 13-16, 2007. L V Prasad Eye Institute was the official host for the event. The first such Asia Pacific meeting in India, it had the participation of every major ophthalmic plastic and reconstructive surgery society including the American Society of Ophthalmic Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery (ASOPRS), European Society of Ophthalmic Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery (ESOPRS), British Oculoplastic Surgery Society (BOPSS), and International Society of Ocular Oncology (ISOO). (See also page 77)

World Glaucoma Day & Glaucoma Meet

The World Glaucoma Association observed World Glaucoma Day on March 6, 2008, and LVPEI observed the day across its three campuses – Hyderabad, Bhubaneswar and Visakhapatnam. Glaucoma patients, their relatives and experts in the field attended a meeting at the auditorium of each campus, with all the auditoriums being linked through videoconferencing. The objective was to increase awareness of glaucoma and form a glaucoma support group for patients.

Coinciding with World Glaucoma Day, a two-day Glaucoma Update was organized from March 8-9, 2008, with the three LVPEI campuses linked through videoconferencing. Talks were delivered by the Institute and invited faculty, followed by interaction among the delegates and faculty. The event was held at LVPEI Visakhapatnam, and beamed to the other two campuses.
Awards

Award for stem cell therapy at LVPEI
Dr Geeta K Vemuganti and Dr Virender Singh Sangwan were jointly selected for the Biotech Products and Process Development and Commercialisation Awards for 2007 for initiating the first adult stem therapy in India, which has turned out to be the largest clinical trial of its kind that has restored sight to more than 200 patients. Initiated by the Ministry of Science & Technology, Department of Biotechnology, Govt. of India, the awards were presented by former President of India Dr A P J Abdul Kalam on May 11, 2007, in New Delhi.

Pisart Vision Award for Dr G N Rao
Dr Gullapalli N Rao, Chairman, LVPEI, was awarded the 2007 Pisart Vision Award, given each year to an outstanding humanitarian and respected ophthalmologist by the Lighthouse International of New York. The Pisart Award is partially funded by Mme Georgette Pisart, a longtime volunteer of Lighthouse International, New York, USA. November 15, 2007.

Melbourne Univ honors Dr Rao
Dr G N Rao was awarded a Doctor of Medicine (honoris causa), from the University of Melbourne on December 8, 2007. The Centre for Eye Research Australia nominated him for the award in recognition of his inspirational work in leading global efforts to eliminate avoidable blindness.

EMPI – Indian Express Indian Innovation Awards 2006
Dr APJ Abdul Kalam, former President of India, gave away the EMPI – Indian Express Indian Innovation Awards 2006 at a glittering ceremony on December 22, 2007, in New Delhi. Dr G N Rao received the spectacular Gold Trophy on behalf of L V Prasad Eye Institute. The citation read “In recognition of the institution’s innovative approach to providing a sustainable, comprehensive rehabilitation and community health eye-care to communities in remote as well as in urban areas. The system covers primary eye care through trained local ‘vision guardians’ and ‘vision centres’ in remote areas, networked for advanced tertiary care, to a world class cutting edge research eye care centre of excellence.” Eight other organizations won gold trophies in various fields of industry and enterprise, while five received silver trophies.

A panel discussion, ‘Innovative Journeys’ was also held with all the award winners participating. Moderated by Mr Arun Maira, Chairman, Boston Consulting Group, USA, the session brought out insights and key issues of the winning organizations’ innovations, the challenges they faced in implementation and their social and business impact. The Annual EMPI (Entrepreneurship and Management Processes International, New Delhi) – Indian Express Indian Innovation Awards are aimed at promoting a culture of innovation in the country.
Syamala Bhaskaran Endowment Lecture

The Eleventh Dr C Syamala Bhaskaran Endowment Lecture was held on Monday September 24, 2007. This year’s guest speaker was Dr Baruch D Kuppermann, Professor, Department of Ophthalmology, University of California, USA. He spoke on age-related macular degeneration, touching upon new and exciting treatment and management strategies and research initiatives. Dr Syamala Bhaskaran and Dr C S Bhaskaran, along with Dr G Chandrasekhar, presented the Oration plaque to Prof Kuppermann.

Dr Rustom D Ranji Rotary Award Lecture

The Dr Rustom D Ranji Rotary Award Lecture 2007 was delivered on October 24, 2007, by Dr P Namperumalsamy, Chairman, Aravind Eye Care System, Madurai. Dr Rustom D Ranji, Honorary Ophthalmologist to the former Nizam of Hyderabad, was associated with several charitable institutions, particularly the Institute for the Blind. The Rotary Club of Hyderabad Dist 3150 set up a corpus fund at L V Prasad Eye Institute in 1997-98, and continues to sponsor an annual lecture in Dr Rustom Ranji’s memory.
Annual Alumni Day
LVPEI’s annual Alumni Day was held on October 16, 2007, with a CME (continuing medical education) program for the LVP alumni with scientific sessions dedicated to cornea, glaucoma, and retina.

On October 17, 2007, the Alumni Day celebrations coincided with the Foundation Day program, which was attended by Guests of Honor Dr Suzanne Gilbert, Director, Center for Innovation in Eye Care, Seva Foundation, USA, and Dr Debbie Sweeney, CEO, Vision CRC, Sydney, Australia. Dr M Rammohan Rao, Dean, Indian School of Business, Hyderabad, delivered the guest lecture.
(See also Foundation Day report, page 19)

Later the Institute staff participated in a Visioning Workshop – an organizational development exercise on LVPEI’s core values (led by ThinkSoft Consultants, Hyderabad). The exercise provided administrators, consultants, optometrists and the support staff an opportunity to reflect on and share their views on what LVPEI stood for and what it meant to them to work here. The audience, split into groups, discussed key questions about the organizational vision, to arrive at five key words that they would like to see reflected in a vision statement, along with three non-negotiables. There was agreement that a vision should reflect not only what the organization wished to achieve for society and individuals, but also the aspirations and needs of its own employees.

In the second half of the day a Practice Development seminar was organized for the LVPEI alumni. The external faculty included Mr Jaideep Bajaj, consultant; Dr Ajay Sharma and Mr Rajat Goel of Eye-Q; Mr Rajamani from Carl Zeiss; and Mr Rahul Singh, Investment Head (South India Head), Citibank. The seminar was attended by 30 alumni members from outside Hyderabad, not working with LVPEI currently.

Honor for LVPEI alumnus

New responsibilities
Dr Raman Mittal, LVPEI fellow (Ophthalmic Plastic Surgery, Orbital Diseases and Ocular Oncology Services, 2004-2005) has moved from MGM Eye Institute, Raipur. He is now working at Grewal Eye Institute (Chandigarh) and at Om Prakash Satyam Neraliya (Amritsar), three days a week each. On the personal front, he was blessed with a baby girl in March 2008.
Across our campuses

Patient Care

The reach and range of our patient care services continues to grow. During the year in review, the three tertiary care centers received nearly 280,000 outpatient visits and handled more than 32,000 surgeries. New services were introduced at all three centers, reflecting the increasing awareness of specialized eye care services and our capacity to administer to these needs. Children and the elderly continue to be special points of focus of our work, as are rehabilitative and assistive services for those with untreatable vision impairment. At the other end of the spectrum, we are sensitive to the changing needs of society, and are extending our services in areas of emerging need such as refractive surgery and aesthetic services. The main focus of our work, however, is the patient whose life can be transformed with comprehensive, high quality eye care, whether or not this patient can pay.
drushti daan eye bank set up

An MoU was signed between drushti daan and LVPEI, Bhubaneswar, on April 3, 2007, in the presence of Dr Gullapalli N Rao, Dr Taraprasad Das, Prof Paul J Dubord, Chairman, Eyesight International, Canada, Dr Krishna Charan Padhi, and Mrs Sudha Sundararajan. The eye bank will now be housed in the premises of LVPEI, Bhubaneswar. Speaking at the occasion, Prof Paul J Dubord announced Eyesight International's support for building and equipping the eye bank. Dr Rao reiterated that this would be a community eye bank and provide corneas for corneal transplantation to surgeons in the state of Orissa and the surrounding regions.

First anniversary celebrations

L V Prasad Eye Institute, Bhubaneswar, celebrated its first anniversary on July 3, 2007. The occasion was marked by the inauguration of drushti daan Eye Bank by the Chief Minister of Orissa Mr Naveen Patnaik. Other dignitaries present included Minister of Health and Family Welfare Mr Duryodhan Majhi; Prof Paul J Dubord; Dr Gullapalli N Rao, Chairman, LVPEI; Dr Krishna Charan Padhi, President, drushti daan Eye Bank; Dr Usha Gopinathan, Vice President, Eye Bank Association of India; Mrs Sudha Sundararajan, Secretary, drushti daan Eye Bank; Dr Taraprasad Das, Director, LVPEI, Bhubaneswar; Mrs Lalitha Raghuram, Country Director, Operation Eyesight Universal, Canada; and Dr Sujata Das, Medical Director, drushti daan Eye Bank.

Dr Das outlined the Institute’s progress, the services provided and community initiatives undertaken during the year. Dr Rao spoke of the two-decade journey of LVPEI and its future plans. The Chief Minister lauded the Institute’s work and appealed to the people to pledge their eyes to combat corneal blindness. He presented certificates to the qualifying Vision Technicians as well as the Best Employee awards. Mr Majhi presented certificates to graduating Ophthalmic Nursing Assistants.
LVPEI-NTPC centre inaugurated
On October 10, 2007, L V Prasad Eye Institute, Bhubaneswar, opened three new centres – the Centre for Diabetic Eye Diseases, Eye Trauma Centre and Sight Enhancement and Rehabilitation Centre – with the generous support of the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC). Mr Sushil Kumar Shinde, Union Minister for Power, inaugurated the centres. Mr Naveen Patnaik, Chief Minister of Orissa, was the chief guest. The other dignitaries present were Mr Duryodhan Majhi, Minister of Health and Family Welfare, Government of Orissa, Mr T Sankarlingam, CMD, NTPC, Mr Somnath Banerjee, ED, NTPC (Kaniha), Dr Gullapalli N Rao, and Mr L I Parija, Chairman, LVPEI, Bhubaneswar Board.

SBI opens an ATM counter
The State Bank of India, Bhubaneswar Zonal Office, opened an SBI-ATM counter on July 2, 2007, at LVPEI, Bhubaneswar. The counter was inaugurated by Dr Savitri Sharma Das, Associate Director of Laboratory Services, LVPEI. Among those present were Mr V Madhusudan Rao, Deputy General Manager of SBI, Bhubaneswar Zonal Office, and Mrs Padmini Rao, President, SBI Ladies Club. SBI also supported the non-paying surgeries at the Institute on July 2 and 4, 2007.

National Eye Donation fortnight
To commemorate 22nd National Eye Donation Fortnight, drushti daan organized a symposium on ‘Awareness of Eye Donation’ on August 25, 2007. Several NGOs, along with donors and recipient families, participated in the symposium. Issues related to eye donation, eye banking, and the hospital corneal retrieval program were discussed.

National seminar on ‘Vision for Children’
This year the International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness (IAPB) dedicated World Sight Day to ‘Vision for Children’. The National Programme for the Control of Blindness (NPCB), Government of India, and VISION 2020: The Right to Sight – India commemorated World Sight Day 2007 by conducting a symposium on ‘Vision for Children’ on October 10, 2007. Mrs Hema Malini, Brand Ambassador of VISION 2020: The Right to Sight – India, attended the last session and also interacted with the young staff of the institute. (See also page 77)

Retina Congress
The XII Retina Congress was organized at LVPEI Bhubaneswar, December 7-9, 2007, with Dr Soumyav Basu as the organizing secretary. The main aim of the congress was to create a platform for lively interactive discussion with national and international faculty. (See also page 77)
IGNOU Study Centre inauguration
The Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) and LVPEI Bhubaneswar have started a BSc (Hons) Optometry & Ophthalmic Technique course. The IGNOU Study Centre was formally inaugurated on January 22, 2008. Ten students have enrolled in the first batch. Dr Krishna Charan Padhy, president, drushti daan, was the chief guest. Dr S K Tripathy, Regional Director, IGNOU Bhubaneswar centre; Prof. Coen de Jong, Director, Bausch & Lomb School of Optometry, LVPEI; and Dr Taraprasad Das were present along with the staff and students.

Friends of drushti daan meet
On March 5, 2008, the Governor of Orissa Mr Murali C Bhandare visited the Institute to commemorate the day as ‘the friends of drushti daan.’ Mr Tuhi K Pandey, Commissioner-cum-Secretary, Health and Family Welfare, Government of Orissa, and Prof Paul J Dubord, Chairman, Eyesight International, were the guests of honour. Also present were Dr Gullapalli N Rao, Dr K C Padhy, delegates from Sight & Life, USA, and the media.

The Governor released a souvenir, visited the eye bank and took an eye donation pledge. Lauding the efforts of LVPEI Bhubaneswar, he appealed to the people to pledge their eyes to combat corneal blindness.

Clinical Biochemistry Service
The Clinical Biochemistry Service at LVPEI Bhubaneswar was opened on December 26, 2007, to perform laboratory tests required for preoperative evaluation of patients. While paying patients would pay nominal fees, the services would be provided free for non-paying patients.

School Eye Screening Programs

- A total of 4,700 school children between 6-15 years of age were screened at the Kalinga Institute of Social Science, Jali Primary School, Sikharchandi village school and DPS Kalinga School between April 2007 and March 2008. Subsequently, 223 children came to the institute for a check up. Ninety-three children identified with refractive errors were given spectacles and two children underwent surgery at no cost to them.

- A teachers’ training program was organized on December 18, 2007 and January 29, 2008 at the institute for teachers from Jali Primary school, Sikharchandi village school, volunteers from the social organization Professionals Association for Action and Development (PAAD) and Delhi Public School Kalinga. Thirty-eight school teachers were given training on how to screen the children with eye problems in classroom situation.
Hospital

<table>
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<th>Services</th>
<th>Paying</th>
<th>Non-paying</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<td>Outpatient visits</td>
<td>29,727</td>
<td>7,793</td>
<td>37,520</td>
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<tr>
<td>Surgical procedures</td>
<td>2,511</td>
<td>1,091</td>
<td>3,602</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Analysis of surgical procedures (%)

- Cataract: 36%
- Retina Vitreous: 39%
- Corneal surgeries: 14%
- Glaucoma: 7%
- Plastic surgeries: 3%
- Other surgeries: 1%

In addition, 127 children were examined and treated under anesthesia (EUA).

Vision Rehabilitation Centres

LVPEI-NTPC Centre for Sight Enhancement

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Low vision care during the year</th>
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<tr>
<td>New patients</td>
<td>130</td>
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<tr>
<td>Follow-up patients</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>164</td>
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<th>Optical devices prescribed</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spectacles</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Magnifiers</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telescopes</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Non-Optical devices prescribed</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading stand</td>
<td>82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading lamp</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Light control devices</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Closed-circuit television</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Rehabilitation for the Blind & Visually Impaired

| Children's Centre | 106 |
| Adult Centre      | 160 |
| Total             | 266 |

Rehabilitation Services

- Counseling: 266
- Special Skill Training: 95
- Instruction in use of
  - Assistive devices (computers): 24
  - Low vision devices: 89
- Environmental modification: 234
- Educational guidance: 93
- Vocational guidance: 73
- Referral to other services: 61
- Supportive guidance: 124

drushti daan Eye Bank Statistics

- Cornea collected: 59
- Cornea utilized: 28
- Used for research: 31
- Motivated: 51
- Volunteered: 08
First anniversary celebrations

On July 7, 2007, LV Prasad Eye Institute, Visakhapatnam, celebrated its first anniversary, and the occasion was auspicious for more reasons than one. The Visakhapatnam institute campus was christened ‘GMR Varalakshmi Campus’ in honor of Mrs Varalakshmi and Mr G M Rao of the GMR Group. The GMR group of companies has committed long-term support to LVPEI over the next five years for its continued growth.

The day also marked the inauguration of Mohsin Eye Bank at the Institute. The eye bank is managed by VEBART Trust. His Excellency Shri Rameshwar Thakur, Governor of Andhra Pradesh, unveiled a plaque commemorating the occasion. Chairman of Mohsin Eye Bank and VEBART Trust Dr R Ahikrishna and Chairman of LVPEI, Dr Gullapalli N Rao, formalized a Memorandum of Understanding between the two organizations.

In his address, the Governor urged the gathering to pledge their eyes as the gift of sight was the greatest gift one could bestow. He also encouraged them to work towards making eye care equitable and affordable to all members of society.

The Guest of Honor was Flag-Officer Commanding-in-Chief Vice Admiral Raman P Suthan. Visakhapatnam Mayor Mr Janardhan Rao was also present. A cultural program was organized by the LVPEI staff in the evening, where winners of various sports events and best employee awards were felicitated. The program included performances by three talented, visually impaired patients.

Visit of Mrs GMR Varalakshmi: On January 11, 2008, Mrs GMR Varalakshmi visited the campus.
LVPEI – Fullerton India ‘Save the Eye’ Program

L V Prasad Eye Institute, Visakhapatnam, with support from Fullerton India Credit Company Limited, conducted a community screening program at Vivekananda Kalyana Mandapam, Visakhapatnam, on August 19, 2007, to increase awareness about the causes of eye diseases and preventive methods, while making affordable and quality eye care available to the people. The program included the following services: eye screening for refraction and prescription of spectacles; eye screening for all major blinding diseases, diagnosis, referral and counseling; referrals for surgeries and other critical care; dispensing of spectacles and medicines; and display of awareness posters. Almost 500 people were screened, 200 were given free spectacles by Fullerton and 168 were referred to LVPEI, Visakhapatnam, for further management.

Nimmagadda Prasad Children’s Eye Care Centre

As part of the state-wide Nimmagadda Prasad Children’s Eye Health Initiative, the Nimmagadda Prasad Children’s Eye Care Centre was inaugurated on November 3, 2007. The Centre will provide advanced eye care for all children’s eye problems for a population of 10 million around Visakhapatnam. The vision of this initiative is “No child in Andhra Pradesh should be needlessly blind or visually impaired by 2020”. (See also News, page 15)

Eye Banking and Cornea Meet

An Eye Banking and Cornea Meet was held on August 26, 2007. It was jointly organized by LVPEI along with the VEBART trust. The faculty included both external experts and our faculty from all campuses. Over 80 ophthalmologists attended the seminar from around Visakhapatnam. (See also page 78)

Ocular Oncology services launched

The Oculoplasty and Ocular Oncology Services commenced on November 1, 2007. Dr Roshmi Gupta, former fellow of LVPEI and former consultant of Narayan Nethralaya, Bangalore, who has recently returned from a fellowship in USA, heads the department.

Cataract & Cornea Seminar

The Cataract & Cornea Seminar organized from November 3-4, 2007, included guest faculty from Chennai, Ahmedabad, and from LVPEI. Over 80 delegates attended. This included didactic lectures, interactive sessions and practical wet lab sessions. (See also page 78)

Sight Life team visits LVPEI

On March 7, 2008, Mr Monty M Montoya, President & CEO, Sight Life, USA, and his team visited the Mohsin Eye Bank. Sight Life, USA, and the Blume Foundation are major supporters of Mohsin Eye Bank. They conducted a meeting with Trust Board members, visited the Eye Bank’s Hospital Cornea Retrieval Program Information Centre at KGH, met Dr Ravi Raju, Superintendent of KGH and the Principal of Andhra Medical College, Visakhapatnam.

World Glaucoma Day

World Glaucoma Day was celebrated across all the three campuses of LVPEI on March 6, 2008. To commemorate the occasion, a Glaucoma Update was conducted from March 8-9, 2008, at LVPEI Visakhapatnam. The faculty for the program included Dr Ronnie George, Sankara Nethralaya, Chennai; Dr R Ramakrishnan, Aravind Eye Hospital, Tirunelveli; Dr C V Gopala Raju, Visakha Eye Hospital, Visakhapatnam; Dr G R Reddy, Sri Venkateswara Nethralaya, Thadepalligudem; as well as the senior faculty of L V Prasad Eye Institute’s three campuses. The interactive seminar was conducted across all the three campuses via video-conference facility. The event was held at LVPEI Visakhapatnam and beamed to the other two campuses. (See also page 78)
Hospital

Performance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Services</th>
<th>Paying</th>
<th>Non-paying</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Outpatient visits</td>
<td>27,134</td>
<td>10,079</td>
<td>37,213</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surgical procedures</td>
<td>1,697</td>
<td>1,470</td>
<td>3,167</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Analysis of surgical procedures (%)

- Cataract: 1,772
- Retina Vitreous: 826
- Corneal surgeries: 242
- Glaucoma: 58
- Plastic surgeries: 179
- Lasik: 51
- Other surgeries: 39

In addition, 121 children were examined and treated under anesthesia (EUA).

Nimmagadda Prasad Children’s Eye Care Centre

Outpatient visits: 4,521
Surgical procedures: 183

LASIK Centre

With the growing popularity of LASIK refractive correction, a state-of-the-art excimer laser was set up at GMR Varalakshmi campus on April 4, 2007.

Public Education Forum

LVPEI Visakhapatnam held its first Public Education Forum on cataract on April 29, 2007, with an audience of approximately 1200 people. Dr Gullapalli N Rao and LVPEI Visakhapatnam consultants spoke on the magnitude of cataract blindness, what causes cataract, the treatment methods available and various myths and facts pertaining to cataract.
Vision Rehabilitation Centres

Bob Ohlson Centre for Sight Enhancement

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Low vision care during the year</th>
<th>Optical devices prescribed</th>
<th>Non-Optical devices prescribed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New patients</td>
<td>Spectacles 191</td>
<td>Reading stand 98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Follow-up patients</td>
<td>Magnifiers 141</td>
<td>Reading lamp 86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>Telescopes 61</td>
<td>Light control devices 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Closed-circuit television 3</td>
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</table>

Age-wise analysis of patients

Rehabilitation for the Blind & Visually Impaired

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Children's Centre</th>
<th>360</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adult Centre</td>
<td>522</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>882</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Rehabilitation Services

- Counseling: 731
- Special Skill Training: 835
- Instruction in use of
  - Assistive devices (computers): 1010
  - Low vision devices: 353
  - Environmental modification: 342
  - Educational guidance: 293
  - Vocational guidance: 259
- Referral to other services: 134
- Follow up: 157

Mohsin Eye Bank Statistics

- Cornea collected: 122
- Cornea utilized: 74
- Used for research: 48
- Motivated: 60
- Volunteered: 62

Children playing at the Nimmagadda Prasad Children's Eye Care Centre
Kallam Anji Reddy Campus, Hyderabad

Hospital

Performance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Services</th>
<th>Paying</th>
<th>Non-paying</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Outpatient visits</td>
<td>136,247</td>
<td>60,203</td>
<td>196,450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surgical procedures</td>
<td>14,614</td>
<td>11,454</td>
<td>26,068</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Analysis of surgical procedures (%)

- Cataract: 11,509
- Corneal transplants: 922
- Corneal surgeries: 2,582
- Glaucoma: 862
- Retina Vitreous: 5,003
- Squint: 775
- Plastic surgeries: 3,310
- Lasers: 555
- Other surgeries: 550

In addition, 2877 children were examined and treated under anesthesia (EUA).

Jasti V Ramanamma Children’s Eye Care Centre

Outpatient visits: 31,265

Surgical procedures: 6,544

(Data included in the annual statistics above)

Retinopathy of Prematurity (ROP)

For the first time we treated newborn to one-month old babies who were referred to us and airlifted from remote parts of India such as Sikkim and Bhilai. The early ROP treatment helped save the babies’ vision; this stands testimony to our efforts towards creating awareness about early treatment for retinopathy of prematurity in infants to save their vision.

Ocular Oncology Service

In 2004, Dr Parin Vakharia set up a Corpus Fund for treatment of children with eye cancer, in memory of late Olive Swoboda. The fund has enabled L V Prasad Eye Institute to provide quality tertiary cancer care to hundreds of children from underprivileged families free of charge. During the period under review (April 1, 2007 to March 31, 2008) the total number of procedures performed on children with retinoblastoma was 1617. Of these 844 children were treated absolutely free of charge. The procedures performed included examination under anesthesia, laser transpupillary thermotherapy and cryotherapy, as well as hospital-based chemotherapy, and surgical procedures like enucleation with orbital implant and plaque brachytherapy.
Ramayamma International Eye Bank

“This is the first time in the history of our family that we as parents have taken this decision to donate eyes. We believe our baby daughter came into the world with this divine purpose and this is a great solace to our hearts. As you rightly said this would be a living memorial to our loved one who entered this world as a butterfly and left us before we could see her flying colours.”

– Expressions from a donor family

Community Eye Banking Program

We provided 465 donor corneas to corneal surgeons outside LVPEI, both within and outside Andhra Pradesh.

Training

Training was provided to 16 eye bank technicians, 7 eye donation counsellors, 5 ophthalmologists and 1 eye bank manager. This was supported by a significant grant from Eyesight International of Canada.
Vision Rehabilitation Centres

Meera & L B Deshpande Centre for Sight Enhancement

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Low vision care during the year</th>
<th>Optical devices prescribed</th>
<th>Non-Optical devices prescribed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New patients 1848</td>
<td>Spectacles 448</td>
<td>Reading stand 91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Follow-up patients 746</td>
<td>Magnifiers 525</td>
<td>Reading lamp 68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total 2594</strong></td>
<td>Telescopes 128</td>
<td>Light control devices 107</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Age-wise analysis of patients

![Age-wise analysis of patients graph]

Dr PRK Prasad Centre for Rehabilitation of Blind and Visually Impaired

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Children's Centre</td>
<td>1394</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult Centre</td>
<td>2249</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>3643</strong></td>
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</table>

Rehabilitation Services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Counseling</td>
<td>3265</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Skill Training</td>
<td>608</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instruction in use of</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>– Assistive devices (computers)</td>
<td>653</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>– Low vision devices</td>
<td>944</td>
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<tr>
<td>Environmental modification</td>
<td>2159</td>
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<tr>
<td>Educational guidance</td>
<td>1110</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vocational guidance</td>
<td>379</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supportive services</td>
<td>2417</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Referral to other services</td>
<td>339</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Follow up</td>
<td>1350</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Activities and events
Nine 3rd year students of BHSc, from Acharya N G Ranga Agricultural University, came on an observation visit for ‘Management of children with special needs’ on April 20, 2007.

An Arts and Crafts workshop was held at LVPEI on July 14, 2007, in which 25 visually impaired children participated, along with their parents.

A workshop was conducted on ‘Meeting the rehabilitation needs of low vision children’ on August 11, 2007, for students of the BEd special education course at Thakur Hari Prasad Institute for the Research and Rehabilitation of Mentally Retarded (THPI), Hyderabad.

Mr Nagagurappa and the community-based rehabilitation (CBR) team conducted an orientation and mobility course for the students and staff of BBS Devnar School for the Blind, from August 20-22, 2007.

The Vision Rehabilitation Centres participated in the World Sight Day celebrations on October 11, 2007, and showcased a range of low vision devices, including special software for persons with visual impairment.

The Vision Rehabilitation Centres organized an integrated fun camp for visually challenged and sighted children on December 9, 2007. The 230 participants included vision impaired children, sighted siblings and family members. A team of dedicated volunteers and staff coordinated the event, which comprised a range of indoor and outdoor activities and competitions. The parents had an opportunity to learn from one another on how to cope with the challenges of raising special children. All the children were presented with certificates, gifts and prizes. The camp aims to enhance the children’s social skills, and foster independence and self-esteem.

An interactive session on ‘Achieving independence in all aspects’ was conducted for adults with vision impairment on February 9, 2008. Individual issues for achieving independence was the focus of the session. In addition, patients who had fared well guided others regarding employment opportunities, advocacy and day-to-day issues in coping with vision loss. The session was greatly appreciated; such sessions will now be conducted every quarter.

CME Programs
Low Vision Awareness program (LAP) for ophthalmologists, optometrists and rehabilitation professionals: The 17th LAP was conducted from April 27-29, 2007; 50 eye care professionals from all over the country participated in the program. The 18th LAP was conducted from September 28-30, 2007; 36 eye care professionals from India and two from Bangladesh participated in the program.
Patientspeak

It’s not until a patient can “see” and “feel” the difference that we are satisfied, no matter how delicately the surgeon has wielded the microsurgical instruments required for ophthalmic surgery. For a rural agricultural worker, it might mean the removal of a cataract that has enabled him to regain control of his work and his life. For a schoolgirl in class seven, it might mean gaining the ability to participate on the same level as her classmates, just because a pair of high-powered lenses now allows her to see the blackboard better! Some of our patients paint their own pictures here, in their own words…
Hitesh Kumar Sharma was just 4 in May 1999 when he was playing with his brother, though with a knife. His brother poked little Hitesh in the right eye with the knife. The panic-stricken parents took him to a hospital in Jaipur, where an emergency corneal tear repair was done and the globe structure salvaged. Hitesh had to undergo two more surgeries to remove a cataract with a posterior chamber intraocular lens implantation in July 1999. Then he underwent a posterior capsulotomy in September 1999.

After these surgeries, Hitesh did well for a while but eight years later, the numerous surgeries took a toll on his cornea. The cornea has a carpet-like layer of cells in its innermost layer called endothelial cells. This is a single layer of cells that is finite in number. Each cornea has a fixed number of these cells, which reduce in number gradually as a person ages. The primary function of these cells is to pump out water from the cornea and keep it transparent. However, multiple surgeries can cause significant damage to these cells resulting in a drastic reduction in number, eventually causing corneal decompensation leading to fluid accumulation and whitening of the cornea.

When Hitesh came to LVPEI Hyderabad in November 2007, he was suffering from exactly this condition. His vision was poor and he was able to identify objects only at a distance of 2 metres. He had dense corneal edema and a dislocated intraocular lens (IOL) that was rubbing on the cornea and causing recurrent damage to the endothelial cells. In the hope that he would have enough reserve endothelial cells and that his cornea would recover if the IOL was removed, he was advised an IOL explantation, which was done on January 1, 2008. The surgeon knew that the prognosis for a corneal transplantation would be very poor, even though the corneal edema did not subside. He was unable to continue his studies due to continuous watering and discomfort in his right eye.

In June 2008 Hitesh came to LVPEI again. This time the surgeon planned a definitive surgery but he faced a big challenge as scarring had left very little space for a corneal transplant. An alternative surgery was considered – Descemet Stripping Endothelial Keratoplasty (DSEK)*, an exciting new procedure. Hitesh underwent DSEK but it was very different from routine DSEK surgery, because of his corneal scars.

Hitesh seemed fine on his first two post-operative visits; though his vision did not improve much, he was symptomatically slightly better. He was asked to go for follow up locally. When he came back after a month, there was a surprise in store for us. Hitesh had the biggest smile on his face, as did his father. His symptoms had disappeared completely and his vision had improved to 6/36. The edema in the cornea had resolved completely and the upper cornea was crystal clear. With contact lenses, his vision improved further to 6/24, a remarkable improvement considering he was injured at the age of 4 and did not have any amblyopia therapy since then. His surgeon hopes that with time and regular contact lens wear, Hitesh’s vision would improve further. Most importantly, he is now free of the pain, watering and discomfort that he had lived with since childhood!

DSEK or Descemets Stripping Endothelial Keratoplasty is a new procedure of partial transplantation of the cornea. The endothelial cells in the innermost layer of the cornea are crucial to retain the clarity of the cornea as they continuously pump water out of it. All of us have a fixed number of these cells in our eyes. If the cells are damaged, water accumulates and the cornea becomes hazy, reducing vision. Earlier the only option was a full corneal transplantation (penetrating keratoplasty), but it has limitations such as suture related complications, infection and high astigmatism. DSEK has revolutionized corneal transplantation by allowing transplantation of only the diseased endothelial cells, leaving the rest of the cornea intact. Using a virtually sutureless procedure, a disc of healthy endothelium from a donor is inserted into the patient’s eye and attached in place with an air bubble. Visual recovery is faster than in penetrating keratoplasty and complications such as infection, rejection and high astigmatism are greatly minimized. The surgery can be repeated with ease if required.
Saida Naik was ecstatic when he walked into LVPEI recently – he had been selected as a probationary officer by the State Bank of India. A patient of LVPEI for 12 years, he remembers when life didn’t seem so promising.

Saida was born with albinism, a pigmentation disorder that robs the skin of its color and also affects vision. Albinism causes reduced visual acuity and extreme sensitivity to bright lights. His parents were farmers in Narasaraopeta, Guntur district. They had themselves never been to school, but they gave him an education. Eager to learn, Saida managed to get by at school by standing next to the chalkboard. In 1997, when he was in high school, a friend (also a patient of LVPEI) advised him to go to LVPEI.

At LVPEI, Saida underwent a detailed eye examination and was operated upon. Though his vision could not be restored, the surgery stopped the shaking of his pupils (nystagmus). He was referred to the Vision Rehabilitation Centres, where he underwent some more tests. Finally, he was prescribed glasses – 2 pairs, one each for short and long distance. He was also given a telescope that would help him read bus numbers. He now pulls it out of his pocket, proudly saying it’s 12 years old and still functional! He received the glasses and telescope free of cost.*

Now 26, Saida has a commendable academic track record, while studying all through in government schools. He lost his father at a very young age, but was encouraged by his mother to continue his studies, despite financial constraints.

After doing a B Com from SKRBR Degree College in Narasaraopeta, Saida took coaching classes and was admitted to the MBA program at Acharya Nagarjuna University Campus College, near Vijayawada. He worked as faculty in the same college while continuing to study for his MBA.

Saida topped the university and was offered a job with ICICI Bank in campus recruitments. For two years he worked as a Team Leader with the HPCL Petro Card Division based in Hyderabad, leading a group of 18 youngsters.

Yet Saida was not content. He decided to take a bank exam for probationary officers, which he got through fairly easily! Excited, he wanted to qualify for the country’s leading banks. He attended coaching classes and applied for several bank examinations. Finally, he qualified for the one of his choice – State Bank of India. A thrilled Saida came to share the news with his friends at LVPEI, reeling off all the advantages of the job.

Saida says he has not had any trouble performing his job and shares an excellent rapport with all those he works with. And as he derives satisfaction from his job, he continues to enjoy other things in life – he is a good cook and a singer, performing devotional music in TTD temples regularly.

* (Mr Praveen Gottipalli of USA continues to support the provision of low vision devices to underprivileged patients at LVPEI’s Vision Rehabilitation Centres)
Hope for budding lives

Harish, an 8-year-old boy, had been a playful child before his right eye suddenly started increasing in size. A darling of his parents, Harish was their only hope and support for the future.

Unfortunately, one day a rapid swelling in Harish's right eye was followed by a marked decrease in vision. The anxious parents consulted several local doctors, even traversing to the nearest city. But they were disappointed.

Harish was brought to L V Prasad Eye Institute, Bhubaneswar, by his father in March 2008. With a fungating mass in his right eye, poor vision and pain the child was miserable and was clinging to his father. A detailed comprehensive examination, followed by an examination under anesthesia (EUA: cialized procedure), as well as fine needle aspiration cytology of the regional lymph nodes helped establish the diagnosis of retinoblastoma. (Retinoblastoma is a potentially fatal cancer of the eye).

The little boy was treated with triple drug chemotherapy to save his life and, if possible, the eye too. Two months after chemotherapy was started, Harish is happy and playful again. The treatment has infused a fresh ray of hope into him and all his loved ones.

“We spent so much money for the survival of our prematurely born babies. We thank our eye doctor whose timely intervention helped my babies to see.”

Archana, mother of Sai (boy) and Shradha (girl), 40 days old, resident of Rasulgarh village, Bhubaneswar.
This year saw the emphasis move to the realization of comprehensive eye care service delivery systems at the district level – Village Vision Complexes – with fully functional primary and secondary eye care linkages through ten Vision Centres linked to one secondary Service Centre. Obviating the need for rural folk to travel to the cities for basic eye care, these complexes take care of a significant proportion of eye conditions and refer only those requiring complex superspecialty eye care to the urban tertiary centres. In addition, the ICARE team traveled across the globe sharing their knowledge and expertise of setting up community eye health systems and helping structure effective national eye care policy. Mobilising communities to take charge of their own eye care needs by donating space and infrastructural support has been a major achievement of ICARE. We believe that this is the only way to sustain high quality eye care services in the long term.
Village Vision – Service Delivery

A. Primary Eye Care – Vision Centres in Andhra Pradesh

11 New Vision centres inaugurated

During the year under review 11 new Vision Centres (VCs) were inaugurated in Adilabad and Prakasam district, bringing the total number of ICARE – LVPEI Vision Centres to 43. Seven of the new VCs were set up in Adilabad and four in Prakasam districts of Andhra Pradesh. Each VC covers a population of 50,000 – 100,000, providing primary eye care in underserved areas.

Adilabad: The seven VCs are attached to the Seshanna Chennawar Eye Centre in Adilabad. They are located at Bela, Narnoor, Jainath, Jannaram, Jainoor, Talamadugu and Gudihathnur. The population of these areas has a significant number of tribals, such as Gonds, Kolams and Andhs. All the Vision Centres began screening patients from the first day.

As is wont, the local governing bodies and village chiefs helped mobilize rent-free buildings for the Vision Centres, thus ensuring ownership and sustainability. The capital cost of the seven VCs was borne by the Indian Society of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, USA, taking the total number of Vision Centres set up with their support to eight. Mr Lawrence Lyerly and Ms Toni Lyerly, humanitarian volunteers and representatives of the Latter-day Saint Charities, USA, attended the inaugurals at Bela and Narnoor. They interacted with the local supporters and appreciated the active participation of the community in this humanitarian work. (See also page 17)

Prakasam: In March 2008, four new Vision Centres linked to the Sudhakar and Sreekanth Ravi Eye Centre (SSREC) in Markapuram, Prakasam district, were inaugurated. These are located at Darshi, Kurichedu, Podili and Cumbham. The four Vision Centres are supported by the Lavelle Fund for the Blind, Inc., New York, USA.

Local community members donated space for the facility; donors as well as the local governing bodies representatives attended the inaugurals. A meeting with an NGO, Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHA), was organized to ensure optimum utilization of the Vision Centres by the community.

LVPEI’s Network of Vision Centres and Service Centres in Andhra Pradesh
## Primary Eye Care – Vision Centres

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance</th>
<th>Screening</th>
<th>Spectacles Prescribed</th>
<th>Spectacles Sold</th>
<th>Visual impairment</th>
<th>Blindness</th>
<th>Referred to Service Centre</th>
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<td>1545</td>
<td>1050</td>
<td>779</td>
<td>476</td>
<td>1590</td>
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<tr>
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<td>667</td>
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<td>121</td>
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<td>730</td>
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<td>58</td>
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<td>Lingala</td>
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<td>309</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<table>
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<td>Nandipet</td>
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<td>671</td>
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<td>920</td>
<td>80</td>
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<td>Podili</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>634</strong></td>
<td><strong>213</strong></td>
<td><strong>89</strong></td>
<td><strong>148</strong></td>
<td><strong>71</strong></td>
<td><strong>206</strong></td>
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| Grand Total                 | **63213** | **23646**             | **18821**       | **6838**          | **3956**  | **15115**                   |
B. Secondary Eye Care in Andhra Pradesh

Swarna Bharat Eye Centre, Venkatachalam, Nellore district
LVPEI's sixth satellite centre Swarna Bharat Eye Centre was inaugurated at Venkatachalam, Nellore district, Andhra Pradesh, on July 1, 2007. Dr P C Kesavan Kutty Nair, Chairman, Medical Council of India, was the guest of honour. The centre will provide high quality, affordable and accessible eye care services to a population of 500,000. (Picture on page 16).

Sudhakar and Sreekanth Ravi Eye Centre, Markapur
The Sudhakar and Sreekanth Ravi Eye Centre at Markapur was inaugurated on January 3, 2008. This is LVPEI seventh satellite centre. Chief guest Smt Daggubati Purandeswari, Minister of State for Human Resource Development, Government of India, cut the ribbon. Launching the Sudhakar and Sreekanth Ravi Eye Health Initiative in Prakasam district, Mr Sreekanth Ravi said he was proud to be associated with this initiative in his home district in Andhra Pradesh. He said the Ravi brothers’ support for LVPEI had given the family tremendous satisfaction, whether it was for establishing the stem cell laboratory or the outpatient facility at LVPEI, Hyderabad.

LVPEI’s stem cell laboratory is named the Sudhakar & Sreekanth Ravi Stem Cell Biology Laboratory in honor of the Ravi brothers’ earlier contribution. Markapur is LVPEI’s seventh satellite centre. Dr Gullapalli N Rao, Chairman, LVPEI, urged the large gathering to make optimal use of the facility and spoke of the Institute’s initiatives, taken in collaboration with the district health administration, to identify people with diabetes and diabetic retinopathy. (See also page 20)

Paramahansa Yogananda Netralaya of Divine Eye Foundation, Rajahmundry
The ninth partner eye facility of LVPEI, Paramahansa Yogananda Netralaya of Divine Eye Foundation, Rajahmundry, was inaugurated on July 6, 2007. The distinguished guests at the inauguration included Dr G N Rao and Dr G V S Murthy, Associate Professor, Department of Preventive Ophthalmology, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi.

Anniversaries
- The Venkata Lakshmi Eye Centre in Karamchedu celebrated its fifth anniversary on June 7, 2007.
- The Seshanna Chennawar Eye Centre in Adilabad celebrated its second anniversary on June 9, 2007.
- LVPEI’s second satellite centre, Sri Kuchukalla Ramachandra Reddy Eye Centre (KRREC) in Toodukurthy (Mahabubnagar district, Andhra Pradesh), celebrated its ninth anniversary on October 24, 2007. Since its establishment on October 24, 1998, the centre has screened 1,00,000 outpatients and performed over 13,000 surgeries. It has a full complement of 10 Vision Centres attached to it, thus providing quality eye care to a catchment population of approximately 500,000 – 1 million people.
- The 11th anniversary of Bhosle Gopal Rao Patel Eye Centre, Mudhol, an LVPEI satellite, was celebrated on December 20, 2007.
### Secondary eye care – Satellite and Partner Centres

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Rural satellite &amp; partner centres</th>
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<th>Non-paying</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Outpatients</td>
<td>Surgeries</td>
<td>Outpatients</td>
<td>Surgeries</td>
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<td>Mudhol, Adilabad District</td>
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<tr>
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<td>3,912</td>
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<td>Thoodukurthy, Mahabubnagar District</td>
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<td>Seshanna Chennawar Eye Centre</td>
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<td>Siloam Eye Centre</td>
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<td>Smt. Rajeshwari Ramakrishnan Lions Eye Hospital, Nidadavole, West Godavari District</td>
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<td>3,221</td>
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<td>394</td>
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<td>Suryapat, Nalgonda District</td>
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<td>The Rotary Eye Hospital</td>
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<td>6,260</td>
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<td>Vemagiri, Rajahmundry (July 2007)*</td>
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**Hyderabad Urban Partner Centres**

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<td>Surgeries</td>
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<td>LVP-VST Vision Screening Centre</td>
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**Total Outpatients:** 2,02,524  
**Total Surgeries:** 21,602

* Data from month of inauguration
### Hyderabad Outreach Urban Slums Eye-care (HOUSE) Program

#### Surveys
- **Slums/Villages surveyed**: 6
- **Population covered through door to door survey**: 18,733
- **People identified with eye ailments and referred for eye examination**: 2,056

#### Community Screening Programs
- **CSPs organized**: 30
- **People screened**: 8,852
- **Treated at venue**: 813
- **Prescribed spectacles**: 3,633
- **Referred to base hospital**: 2,386
- **Within normal limits**: 2,020

#### Referral Services at LVPEI-VST Screening Centre
- **People treated at Vision Centres**: 5,068
- **Prescribed spectacles**: 2,453
- **Treated for other conditions**: 589
- **Cataract & other surgeries**: 86
- **Referred to secondary and tertiary care facilities**: 1,281
- **Within normal limits**: 659

#### LVPEI & Lakshmi Charitable Clinic Community Eye Care Program, Narsingi Village, Ranga Reddy district
- **People screened**: 554
- **Prescribed spectacles**: 12
- **Treated at venue**: 115
- **Cataract**: 79
- **Referred to base hospital**: 146
- **Within normal limits**: 202

#### Kismatpur Vision Screening Centre, Kismatpur, Hyderabad
- **People screened**: 1,358
- **Prescribed spectacles**: 540
- **Referred to base hospital**: 319
- **Others/Within normal limits**: 499
C. Community Eye Care

### Surveys
- Villages/slums surveyed: 578
- Population surveyed: 2,16,623
- People identified with eye ailments and referred: 29,223

### Community Screening Programs
- CSPs Organized: 224
- People screened: 14,581
- Treated at venue: 1,431
- Prescribed Spectacles: 7,124
- Referred to base hospital: 5,920

### Service offered at base hospital
- People treated: 14,390
- Prescribed spectacles: 2,481
- Treated for other conditions: 7,673
- Cataract & other surgeries: 2,071
- Diagnosed as irreversibly visually impaired/blind: 13

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<th>April 2007 to March 2008</th>
<th>Cumulative*</th>
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<td>8214</td>
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<td>Outpatients treated at Service Centres</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>SHG members trained</td>
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<tr>
<td>Teachers trained</td>
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* Project launched October 14, 2004

### GHMC Aasara – LVPEI Senior Citizens Eye Care program
The objective of the joint Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) Aasara and LVPEI’s Senior Citizens Eye Care program is to provide treatment and rehabilitation services to needy senior citizens suffering from cataract and other eye ailments. The program covers all the circles of GHMC in association with the Senior Citizens Association. The first phase of the program started on February 1, 2008, covering eight major eye care service centres in Greater Hyderabad. They would have access to spectacles, cataract surgeries and treatment for other ailments free of cost. From February to March 2008, LVPEI conducted six community screening programs (CSPs) in which 1119 people were screened. A total of 446 spectacles were dispensed free and 111 persons were referred to the base hospital for further treatment, including cataract surgeries.
Fullerton India & LVPEI ‘Save the Eye’

On September 13, 2007, Fullerton India Credit Company Limited (FICCL) signed an MoU with L V Prasad Eye Institute to conduct community eye screening programs in underserved areas. Mr G S Sundararajan, Managing Director & CEO, FICCL, and Dr Gullapalli N Rao, Chairman, LVPEI group, signed the agreement.

Under this ‘Save the Eye’ initiative Community Eye Screening Programs were conducted in 12 major towns and cities in Andhra Pradesh, with support from LVPEI’s tertiary and secondary level eye facilities, affiliates, partners and alumni members’ facilities. A total of 6200 people were screened. The program also dispensed free spectacles for 2700 people and referred 2028 for further management. Of these 701 were operated upon for cataract.

D. National Collaborating Centres: Accompaniment Program

As a result of its intensive engagement at all levels of service delivery, ICARE has devised an end-to-end capacity building program that addresses the need for eye care services by bridging demand, need and capability to deliver. Working with partner eye care hospitals and development agencies, ICARE provides strategic and technical assistance to establish standardized systems of patient care, hospital management and community eye care programs in areas of need. Under the Accompaniment Program, as this is known, the ICARE team works with the partner agency within the context of its service community to design an eye care solution that meets the highest standards of equity and excellence.

India Partners: Tertiary Centres
- Suryodaya Eye Centre, Kolkata
- C L Gupta Eye Institute, Moradabad, Uttar Pradesh
- MGM Eye Institute, Raipur, Chattisgarh
- Alakh Nayan Mandir Eye Institute, Udaipur

India Partners: Secondary Centres
- LVPEI - OEU Collaborating hospitals
- LVPEI - Rotary Partner hospitals
- Chandra Prabha Eye Hospital, Jorhat, Assam
- Bausch & Lomb Advanced Cataract Centre, Haldwani, Uttaranchal
- Bausch & Lomb Advanced Cataract Centre, Sri Ganga Nagar
a. Rotary Hospitals Project
In the year 2005 the Rotarians resolved to do 100,000 more cataract surgeries, over and above what they were doing. They also wanted all their hospitals to set up uniform protocols for performing cataract surgery (pre-operative evaluation, sterilization, management of complications and follow-up) and monitoring and reporting of outcomes. Towards this objective ICARE – LVPEI conducted a series of Rotary Project Workshops in 2005, in which 80 Rotary Hospitals from all over the country participated.

After the last workshop in June 2005, all the Rotary Hospitals continued to send back reports of cataract surgeries to LVPEI. This is a joint project of Rotary and Operation Eyesight Universal (OEU); they reimburse the costs of surgery once the outcome report is verified.

Since the inception of the project, 54528 surgeries have been performed, of which 22,756 were done in 2007-2008. A team from OEU and LVPEI has visited hospitals for quality control checks and evaluation. As the project had extended beyond the stipulated time of 2 years, a new MoU was signed.

After the project is over, a complete capacity building project will be taken up for 10 Rotary hospitals.

b. Operation Eyesight Universal
L V Prasad Eye Institute is a global resource centre for Operational Eyesight Universal, Canada, and is working closely with their partners across India in developing excellent equitable and efficient eye care systems. During the year regular developmental visits to partner hospitals were undertaken by clinical and non-clinical teams, to ensure follow-up on earlier recommendations.

- A one-day operation room technicians workshop on various aspects of operating room care was held on April 15, 2007; 21 technicians and assistants from the partners centres participated in the program.
- A six-week eye care managers training program was conducted from May 15 to June 23, 2007, in which 11 eye care managers participated.
- 13 students underwent training for one year in the vision technician’s program from 7 partners centres.
- Two ophthalmologists went for training – one for short-term and another for long-term.

Performance statistics
- Total outpatients: 638,746
- Total surgeries: 51,740
- 65% of the partners achieved better than 70% cost recovery for their operational expenditure

Participants of the six-week eye care managers training program

c. C L Gupta Eye Institute
A foundation stone has been laid for construction of LVPEI’s partner tertiary eye care facility – C L Gupta Eye Institute at Moradabad, Uttar Pradesh. The first phase of training of personnel is under progress. The construction work and staff training is expected to be completed by the end of 2008.

d. Alakh Nayan Mandir Eye Institute
L V Prasad had signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Alakh Nayan Mandir Trust, Udaipur, Rajasthan, for capacity building to develop a modern tertiary eye care facility. Construction will commence in mid 2008 and is expected to be completed by the end of 2009.
E. Research and Special Projects

1. CHILD-to-Child and CHILD-to-Family communication

The CHILD to Child and CHILD to Family communication study focuses on the effectiveness of utilizing children for communicating eye health and eye care messages to other children and their families to favorably influence their attitudes and practices relating to eye health care. This study is being conducted under the aegis of the Vision Cooperative Research Centre (Vision CRC) of Australia. The duration of the project is June 2006 to October 2008.

The main study was conducted in four rural areas, which equally represent the geographical distribution of the state of Andhra Pradesh. Schoolchildren of grades 6–8 from 13 schools in rural Andhra Pradesh were given orientation to eye health care with the help of trained teachers. The children were asked to perform a basic vision test on their family members, neighbours and peers using a Snellen 6/12 opto-type ‘E’ chart and also to convey eye health messages. They were instructed to refer those suspected of having eye problems to the nearest Vision Centres.

Within a week, 1087 children screened 12,956 people. Of these, 2,213 (17%) suspected of having vision problems were referred to the nearby Vision Centre. After five months, 867 (39%) referred people visited the Vision Centres for further eye examination. Pre and post training evaluation showed an increase in basic knowledge about parts of the eye, signs and symptoms of eye diseases, and awareness of eye ailments due to nutritional deficiency among the children, parents and peer group members.

The study shows that children can understand and communicate eye health messages clearly and function as collaborators in health promotion and educational activities at the community level.

2. Impact assessment study

The ‘Impact of correction of refractive errors among children aged 10 to 15 years on activity-based performance and other vision-based functions in the state of Andhra Pradesh’ research study taken up by ICARE – LVPEI aims to provide information on the impact of refractive error correction on the life of schoolchildren and use of spectacles within the existing system.

The exercise aims to assess the benefits in terms of improved ability to perform routine activities, which in turn affects their quality of life positively. It also studies the percentage of compliance when advised spectacles and the barriers in procuring them. This study is being conducted under the aegis of the Vision Cooperative Research Centre (Vision CRC) of Australia.

Subjects for the study were recruited from 31 schools from four locations in Andhra Pradesh – Hyderabad, Mudhol, Thoodukurthy and Karamchedu, where LVPEI’s secondary and primary eye care centres are situated. A total of 5438 children were screened by trained teachers, of which 990 were identified with eye ailments and treated.

Of these 310 subjects were recruited for the study and baseline data collection was completed by interviewing 310 subjects, 310 parents of the subjects, 310 teachers and 930 peers.

3. Sight First – 1141: Lions – LVPEI capacity development project for diabetic eye disease

Blindness due to diabetes is a major eye health concern as almost two-thirds of patients with diabetes have a high potential for vision loss. To address the problem of diabetic retinopathy in the state of Andhra Pradesh, L V Prasad Eye Institute has undertaken a 3-year capacity building program for 18 eye hospitals, with the support of Lions Club International. The project was launched in August 2005.

The main objectives of Sight First – 1141 project are to generate awareness about eye diseases associated with diabetes, provide comprehensive treatment for persons with diabetic retinopathy, build the capacity of partner hospitals through training of personnel at various levels, and set up a dedicated training infrastructure at LVPEI.

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<td>Guest lectures</td>
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</table>
LVPEI is committed to provide eye care through appropriate systems of vision care, addressing the needs of all sections of society. In this mission, early detection of eye ailments among children through a structured approach to address childhood blindness has been undertaken through the Sight for Kids project, with the support of the Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) and Johnson & Johnson. LVPEI’s role is of designer, coordinator and implementer. The objectives of the project are:

- identify children with vision defects and ocular ailments;
- refer them for appropriate treatment;
- train schoolteachers to identify children with eye ailments and refer them for appropriate care;
- empower teachers to create awareness of eye health issues; and
- implement sustainable eye health program in schools.

The trained children created awareness about diabetes, screening 255,645 families (cumulative: 325,350) and 1,168,341 persons (cumulative: 1,447,704) till March 2008. A total of 44,580 high risk persons identified (cumulative: 68,186) were screened for blood and urine sugar; of these 2428 (cumulative: 4011) were suspected to have diabetes.

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 (*Cumulative data since the launch of the project)

4. **Diabetes Prevention Program in Prakasam district**
   (World Diabetes Foundation – LVPEI program)

The Diabetes Prevention Program in Prakasam district was launched in May 2006 and is supported by the World Diabetes Foundation. The program’s duration is from April 2006 – March 2011. It aims to promote health education on diabetes using the child-to-family communication strategy, diabetes being a major factor in many retinal eye diseases. During the year training programs were organized for 55,404 schoolchildren (cumulative*: 72,199) and 4642 teachers (cumulative: 5616) in 223 schools (cumulative: 507) of 149 villages (cumulative: 340) in 26 mandals (cumulative: 32) of Prakasam district, Andhra Pradesh. Training programs have been conducted for 68 primary health centres (PHC) doctors (cumulative: 74), 90 NGOs (cumulative: 104) and 15,209 self help group representatives (SHGs) (cumulative: 21,038); 768 training programs have been conducted for SHGs.

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(*Cumulative data since the launch of the project)

5. **Sight for Kids (Lions Clubs International Foundation – Johnson & Johnson – LVPEI program)**

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- identify children with vision defects and ocular ailments;
- refer them for appropriate treatment;
- train schoolteachers to identify children with eye ailments and refer them for appropriate care;
- empower teachers to create awareness of eye health issues; and
- implement sustainable eye health program in schools.

The Sight for Kids project has completed its third phase. In these three years, LVPEI has trained ophthalmic assistants and trainers of schoolteachers for 8 partner eye facilities in Greater Hyderabad. During the year under review, ICARE conducted school screening programs in 109 schools, in which 7631 children were screened by trained teachers. They referred 150 children for detailed eye examination and treatment, while 83 children were given spectacles and others treated at the based hospital.

Cumulatively, in all the three phases, LVPEI has trained 549 teachers of 505 schools; 42,827 children have been screened by the trained teachers. Of these, 724 were identified with eye problems and 490 referred for further screening. A total of 219 children were given free spectacles and 224 treated for other eye conditions. Posters on eye health awareness, screening kit and teacher’s screening manual were distributed to all the schools covered under the project.

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**Eye check-up for schoolchildren**
6. Nimmagadda Prasad – LVPEI Children’s Eye Health Initiative

Childhood blindness is the second largest cause of blindness in the developing world, followed by cataract, with India estimated to have five times more vision impaired children as compared to developed nations. Andhra Pradesh is estimated to have 10,000 – 50,000 blind children, while 30,000 – 150,000 more have low vision. Around 5% of the children between 10 – 15 years have significant vision problems, requiring spectacles.

Over one-third of these cases of vision impairment can be avoided, either through appropriate prevention or treatment. In order to address childhood blindness in Andhra Pradesh, a major initiative was launched last year with support from the Nimmagadda Foundation. The Nimmagadda – LVPEI Children’s Eye Health Initiative was launched on July 7, 2007, at Visakhapatnam in the presence of Mr Nimmagadda Prasad, founder of Nimmagadda Foundation.

The Nimmagadda Foundation offered support in the following areas during the year:
- Support for 1000 surgeries for non-paying children at an advanced tertiary centre, L V Prasad Eye Institute, Hyderabad
- Development of Nimmagadda Prasad Children’s Eye Care Centre at LVPEI, Visakhapatnam
- Support for screening and treatment of all non paying children at LVPEI, Visakhapatnam

7. ORBIS – LVPEI Pediatric Ophthalmology Learning and Training Centre

Some of the major hurdles in the elimination of avoidable childhood blindness are shortage of skilled human resources to address pediatric eye diseases, inadequate infrastructure and lack of good anesthesia and para ophthalmic support. To address these concerns in India and south-east Asia ORBIS has set up two Pediatric Ophthalmology Learning and Training Centres (POLTC) at Sankara Netralaya and Aravind Eye Hospitals. The third POLTC was set up at L V Prasad Eye Institute, Hyderabad, in October 2006.

Objectives of the 3 ½ year POLTC program
- Train 5 pediatric eye care teams for ORBIS India partners. Each team of 6 personnel (ophthalmologist, anesthetist, optometrist, nurse, counselor, and an outreach coordinator) will empower one institution in pediatric ophthalmology.
- Examine 25,000 children and provide treatment to 2500 children
- Enhance capacity of the 2 ORBIS supported partners in pediatric ophthalmology
- Provide 450 free spectacles to children
- Perform eye surgeries on 975 children
- Provide support in skill development for the pediatric ophthalmology faculty of LVPEI
- Offer research and participation opportunities at national & international conferences and workshops

Performance
- Over 45,472 children were examined, 4256 children treated and 4887 surgeries performed from April 2007 to March 2008. The target for three years was achieved in the first three quarters of the year 2007.
- Training of the first batch completed by March 2008.
- The training of two long-term ophthalmologists from two more organizations identified by ORBIS is in progress, followed by an optometrist’s training.
- 21 school screening programs were conducted under this project.
- A pediatric Hospital Based Program was conducted in December 2007.
8. Seeing is Believing
In early 2007, Seeing is Believing program of Standard Chartered Bank, UK, to help eye care organizations in India has selected LVPEI. A total of 40 Vision Centres will be set up during 2008 – 2011, 10 each with Venu Eye Institute, Aravind Eye Care System, Sadguru Netra Chikithsalaya and LVPEI. Subsequently, a meeting was held from December 10-12, 2007, at LVPEI. The participants included Mr Gerald Yeo, Director, Temasek Foundation; Mr Sumeet Singla and Ms Pratima Harite, Standard Chartered Bank, India; Dr Abhay Sinha, Venu Eye Institute, New Delhi; Mr Vijay Kumar, Lions Aravind Eye Care System, Chennai; Mr Subramanyam, Sadguru Netra Chikithsalaya, Chitrakoot; and the faculty of ICARE and LVPEI.

The activities of the pyramidal model and the rural network of eye health activities of LVPEI were explained to the group. A field trip to Mahabubnagar district was organized to show them the Vision Centres and their linkages with the Service Centre. Subsequently, a meeting was held to discuss the practical issues of scaling up the Vision Centre model.

The overall goals for the Seeing is Believing project include establishing mutual understanding and partnership between NGOs and NGOs and between NGOs and Standard Chartered Bank and setting up clear goals and methods for the partnerships. The group will meet in May 2008 to take the process of building partnerships further.

F. News & Events

World Sight Day at satellite centres
- World Sight Day was commemorated on October 11, 2007, at three LVPEI satellite centres, with awareness programs, rallies and public meetings, attended by local doctors, NGOs, village leaders and others.

- The Bhosle Gopal Rao Patel Eye Centre, Mudhol, Adilabad district, organized a screening camp and public meeting at Bhainsa, in which the municipal chairman and commissioner of Bhainsa town, market committee chairman and wakf board chairman Dr Damodar Reddy, and office-bearers of the local Lions Club participated.

- The Seshanna Chennawar Eye Centre, Adilabad, organized an awareness rally with the support of Urban Program for Advancement of Household Income (UPADHI) Labs program of Dr Reddy’s Foundation, in which 300 students participated. An eye screening camp was conducted in UPADHI Labs.

- Local village leaders of Kalwakolly village attended the awareness program and screening camp at Kuchukulla Ramachandra Reddy Eye Centre, Thoodukurthy.

World Diabetes Day program
World Diabetes Day was commemorated on November 14, 2007, at Ongole in collaboration with the Prakasam district administration, Government of Andhra Pradesh. A public rally was flagged off by Joint Collector Mr Dinakar Babu, along with other district government health and education officials. Over 1000 people including schoolchildren, self-help group members, NGOs and nursing students participated in the rally, along with the LVPEI team.

Later a public seminar was held, where Dr Nalluri Raghava Rao, former state president, Indian Medical Association, delivered a special address. Other dignitaries present included senior government officials, ophthalmic surgeons, officers of the District Blindness Control Society, and Mr Srinivas, local representative of the Ravi Sreekantha Foundation. Dr Seetharamaiah, diabetologist, spoke on diabetes, followed by a talk by Ms Sunita Sapur from Akshaya Foundation. Dr Ajit B Majji, Retina Vitreous Services, LVPEI, also spoke on diabetic retinopathy. essay writing, elocution and poster competitions were organized, in which 110 schoolchildren from 25 schools participated; the winners were given prizes and certificates. A cultural unit from Assist India performed a song and skit to raise awareness.
World Diabetes Day programs at satellite centres: The Bhosle Gopal Rao Patel Eye Centre, Mudhol, Adilabad district, organized a program in Kuntala village, with an awareness meeting. At a screening program 246 people were examined, of which 80 were identified with cataract and 120 with refractive errors. Of the 116 people examined for diabetes 21 were identified with the disease. The Kuchukulla Ramachandra Reddy Eye Centre, Toodukurthy, Prakasam district, organized an awareness program and rally in Nagarkurnool mandal, which was attended by 400 schoolchildren and teachers from 7 schools. An awareness program was conducted at Swarna Bharat Eye Centre, Nellore, which was attended by patients from the Primary Health Centre, dental hospital, diagnostics centre and schoolchildren from bridge schools in the Swarna Bharat Trust. The Seshanna Chennawar Eye Centre, Adilabad, also held an awareness program and rally in Jairam village.

Vision and diabetes screening: Earlier, teams from LVPEI conducted an enumeration and vision-screening program from November 1-10, 2007, in Madanoor village in collaboration with the Indian Medical Association, Ongole. Vision screening was done for 3800 persons, all above the age of 5, and urine and blood sugar estimation was done for those above 40 years. On November 11, 2007, a mega medical screening program was organized at Madanoor village, where 300 people were given referrals and free medicines were distributed. A press meet was held on November 12, 2007; local newspapers and TV channels covered the event, with a one-hour exclusive telecast.

Blindness prevention plan for Rwanda
LVPEI-ICARE participated in a review meeting to develop a 5-year National Strategic Plan for Prevention of Blindness in Rwanda. This meeting was held in Kigali, Rwanda, March 10–12, 2008.

Partner meet
The fifth LVPEI Satellite and Partner centres meet was conducted on 22nd December 2007. Over 50 delegates attended the meeting. The participants discussed various issues pertaining to each centre, including human resource management, output, outcomes, quality, sustainability and future directions.

Participation in fairs
- ICARE participated in the ‘Abilities Mela 2007’ exhibition held in Hyderabad, August 25-26, 2007. Eye health material, posters and other information material were exhibited and distributed at the fair.
- ICARE participated in ‘Yuvachaitanyam 2007’ on July 8, 2007, setting up an eye health and diabetes exhibition stall. The program was organized by LEPRA Society at Osmania University, Hyderabad. There were around 2000 visitors; over 250 people were screened for vision and diabetes.

G. Community Eye Health Journal
Four issues (Serial nos 14 – 17) of the Community Eye Health Journal – Indian supplement, published under the aegis of the VISION 2020 Indian Forum, were distributed to 4,755 readers all over the country and to neighboring countries, including Pakistan, Nepal, Zambia and Bangladesh and the Sultanate of Oman.
The expansion of our tertiary level infrastructure to two more campuses has also meant an increase in the opportunities available for education in these two additional centers. LVPEI's emphasis on the creation of a broad-based human resource base for eye care service delivery at all levels translates into training programs for nursing assistants, technicians, community eye health workers, and all other cadres that will make service delivery complete and sustainable.
Trainees continue to come from across India and other parts of the world to L V Prasad’s Education Centre for a variety of training needs ranging from specialised surgical techniques to ophthalmic nursing assistance. With the addition of the real-time videoconferencing facility, made possible by the generous support of Mr Vikram Thapar, nephew of the late Mr Karamchand Thapar, we are now able to link all our tertiary centre campuses to training events, thus extending the reach of instructional programs. Videoconferencing is now also possible with universities in Australia and USA thus bringing to LVPEI expert lectures/opinions. This year we had participants from Afghanistan, Argentina, Australia, Baku, Bangladesh, Brunei, China, Germany, Indonesia, Israel, Italy, Kenya, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Rwanda, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Uganda, United Kingdom, United States of America and Vietnam.
### Ophthalmology Training Programs

**Cornea & Anterior Segment**

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**Glaucoma**

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**Comprehensive Ophthalmology**

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**Pediatric Ophthalmology**

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**Ophthalmic Plastic Surgery, Orbit & Ocular Oncology**

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**Manual Small Incision Cataract Surgery (2 months)**

<table>
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<tr>
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**Phacoemulsification (1 month)**

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<tr>
<td>3 months</td>
<td>Mumbai, Maharashta</td>
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<td>3 months</td>
<td>Kolkata, West Bengal</td>
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**Efficiency**

- **Cornea & Anterior Segment**
  - Dr Alfredo Roude, Buenos Aires, Argentina
  - Dr Nitesh Narayan, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh
  - Dr Shweta Karandikar, Nagpur, Maharashtra
  - Dr Deepender Chauhan, New Delhi
  - Dr Vishal Shah, Pune, Maharashtra
  - Dr Bindiya Singhania, Mumbai, Maharashtra
  - Dr Fahima Nahid, Dhaka, Bangladesh
  - Dr Kyati Vivek Shah, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh
  - Dr Sanjay S Vodela, Dhaka, Bangladesh
  - Dr Amiruzzaman, Kigali, Rwanda

- **Glaucoma**
  - Dr Rajat Maheshwari, Muzaffarnagar, Uttar Pradesh
  - Dr Nyugen Tran Quoc Hoang, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam
  - Dr Anina Abraham, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh
  - Dr Himabindu Nair, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh
  - Dr Seema Jaiswal, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh
  - Dr Neeraja Praveen, Warangal, Andhra Pradesh
  - Dr Tapsan Ranjan Padhi, Bhubaneswar, Orissa
  - Dr Kayshree Pradhan, Bhilai, Chattisgarh
  - Dr Quanhong Han, Tianjin, China

- **Retina Vitreous**
  - Dr V Rajasekhar, New Delhi
  - Dr Utpal M Jani, Ahmedabad, Gujarat
  - Dr Murtaza Farahmand, Kabul, Afghanistan
  - Dr Uyen Duyen, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

- **Comprehensive Ophthalmology**
  - Dr Md Shafi Suraga, Ethiopia, South Africa
  - Dr R S Sreejith, Port Blair, Andaman & Nicobar

- **Pediatric Ophthalmology**
  - Dr Anuj Mehta, New Delhi
  - Dr Tajamul Khan, Peshawar, Pakistan

- **Ophthalmic Plastic Surgery, Orbit & Ocular Oncology**
  - Dr D Panigrathy, Khurda, Orissa
  - Dr Namita Dave, Bhilai, Chattisgarh
  - Dr R Radhika, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh
  - Dr R Mamata Subhakar, Chennai, Tamilnadu
  - Dr Preeti Barta, Ajmer, Rajasthan
  - Dr Mradula Yadav, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh
  - Dr Chandan Pandit, Mumbai, Maharashta
  - Dr Raka Chatterjee, Kolkata, West Bengal

- **Manual Small Incision Cataract Surgery (2 months)**
  - Dr D Panigrathy, Khurda, Orissa
  - Dr Namita Dave, Bhilai, Chattisgarh
  - Dr R Radhika, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh
  - Dr R Mamata Subhakar, Chennai, Tamilnadu
  - Dr Preeti Barta, Ajmer, Rajasthan
  - Dr Mradula Yadav, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh
  - Dr Chandan Pandit, Mumbai, Maharashta
  - Dr Raka Chatterjee, Kolkata, West Bengal

- **Phacoemulsification (1 month)**
  - Dr Shobana Dube, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
  - Dr D P Ray, Malda, West Bengal
  - Dr P Rohini, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh
  - Dr Garima Agrawal, Ahmedabad, Gujarat
  - Dr Vinay Babu Guttu, Case Western University, USA
  - Dr Sulochna, Karamchedu, Andhra Pradesh
  - Dr P Padmaja, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh
### Retina Laser (1 month)
- Dr Pranav H Kodial, Than, Maharashtra
- Dr Gianfiancesco M Villani, Rome, Italy
- Dr Sharina Nanda, Jalandhar, Punjab
- Dr Shivaram Nadkarni, Mumbai, Maharashtra
- Dr Anurag Banka, Madhapur, Rajasthan
- Dr Shoba Naveen, Madanapalli, Andhra Pradesh
- Dr Hemant S Sankpal, Mumbai, Maharashtra
- Dr Sajid Adhi, Negara Darrussalam, Brunei

### Retina of Prematurity (1 month)
- Dr Praveen Saluja, Bilaspur, Chattisgarh
- Dr Prakrati Manohar, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh

### LVP - ZEISS Basic Course In Ophthalmic Diagnostics (1 month)
- Dr Kishore Patowary, Guwahati, Assam
- Dr Amit Anand, Guwahati, Assam
- Dr Manav Khera, Guwahati, Assam
- Dr Parul Panwar, Meerut, Uttar Pradesh
- Dr Bankey Lal, Meerut, Uttar Pradesh
- Dr Sumanth Reddy, Kolar, Karnataka
- Dr Khandakar Fariduddin, Guwahati, Assam
- Dr Zakir Hussain Laskar, Guwahati, Assam
- Dr Shyam Kumar Gupta, Meerut, Uttar Pradesh
- Dr Bijay Kumar Pattnaik, Cuttack, Orissa
- Dr M Malleswari, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh
- Dr Abhishek Kumar, Narketpally, Andhra Pradesh
- Dr Saumendra Nath Ghose, Kolkata, West Bengal
- Dr Vuppula Devender, Hanamkonda, Andhra Pradesh
- Dr Taniya Maitra, Guwahati, Assam
- Dr Sabita Devi, Berhampur, Orissa
- Dr V Padmavathi, Warangal, Andhra Pradesh
- Dr Saurabh Agarwal, Meerut, Uttar Pradesh
- Dr Nilakshi Baruah, Guwahati, Assam
- Dr Hardik Parikh, Davangere, Karnataka
- Dr H Maruthi, Sambalpur, Orissa
- Dr Tanuja Abhilash, Kolar, Karnataka
- Dr Roopleen, Dehradun, Chattisgarh
- Dr Gayatri Baruah, Guwahati, Assam
- Dr Manas Ranjan Panda, Berhampur, Orissa
- Dr Amit Jain, Narketpally, Andhra Pradesh
- Dr S Avinash, Davangere, Karnataka
- Dr Surabhi Arora, New Delhi
- Dr Lipi Chakrabarty, Bhiwai, Chhattisgarh
- Dr Girish Reddy, Davangere, Karnataka
- Dr Sudhanshu A Banka, Guwahati, Assam
- Dr Anjum Medhi, Guwahati, Assam
- Dr Jayanta Thakuria, Guwahati, Assam
- Dr Rakhi Kusmeh, Meerut, Uttar Pradesh
- Dr Shrawan Yadav, Meerut, Uttar Pradesh
- Dr Praveen Kumar Sadanand, Hubli, Karnataka
- Dr Ashrafal Alam, Guwahati, Assam
- Dr Rahul Ratnam, Meerut, Uttar Pradesh
- Dr Manees Dhupper, Dehradun, Uttar Pradesh
- Dr Furquaan Isa, Chicago, USA
- Dr Mugdha Ranade, Mumbai, Maharashtra
- Dr Shaista Parveen, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh
- Dr Snehasis Dixit, Bhubaneswar, Orissa
- Dr Ningthoaonjam Linghoigambi, Guwahati, Assam
- Dr K M Riva Das, Guwahati, Assam
- Dr Balakrushna Samantary, Berhampur, Orissa
- Dr Shruti U Narsapur, Tumkur, Karnataka
- Dr Chitralekha De, Guwahati, Assam
- Dr Sandeep Patil, Sambalpur, Orissa
- Dr Vishal Kakhandki, Belgaim, Karnataka
- Dr Sujani Timardas, Khammam, Andhra Pradesh
- Dr Samatha Gurram, Karimnagar, Andhra Pradesh
- Dr I P Singh, Dehradun, Chattisgarh
- Dr Valansa Surong, Guwahati, Assam
- Dr P Smruthi Rekha, Berhampur, Orissa
- Dr N Karthika, Narketpally, Andhra Pradesh
- Dr Anil K S, Davangere, Karnataka
- Dr Kunal Jain, Swami Ram Nagar, Dehradun
- Dr Chaithra N Gowda, Davangere, Karnataka
- Dr Manjunath H R, Davangere, Karnataka

### LVP - ZEISS Advanced Course In Ophthalmic Diagnostics (15 days)
- Manisha Ghai, Sydney, Australia

### Preceptorship
- Ms Duna Forster, University of New South Wales, Australia
- Mr Daniel Dnyaneshwar, University of New South Wales, Australia
- Ms Lisa Ly, University of New South Wales, Australia
- Mr Karthik Selvakumar, University of New South Wales, Australia

### Observership
- Dr Kalpana Rathore, Neemuch, Madhya Pradesh
- Dr Jagan Mohan, East Godavari, Andhra Pradesh
- Dr V Vinod, Columbia University, USA
- Dr Sushas G Nagargoje, Beed, Maharashtra
- Dr Victoria Wong, Hong Kong, China
- Dr Som Nath, Sri Ganganagar
- Dr Dharmesh D Shah, Rajkot, Gujarat
- Ms Shreya Patel, North Andover, USA
- Cornea, Cornea, Cornea, Cornea, Cornea, Cornea, Cornea, Cornea.
Optometry Training Programs

**Bachelor of Science in Optometry (New students, Batch 2007)**

Kamalpreet Dhaliwal
Bhagike, Punjab

Labishetty Vivek
Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh

Jonadula Kartik
Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh

Mohammed Shafee
Kodad, Andhra Pradesh

Baggam Vijaya Preethi
Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh

B Satpathi Raj
Bhiknoor, Nizamabad, Andhra Pradesh

Kelli Vidyasagar
Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh

Vaishnavi Raghuram
Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh

Afreen Fathima
Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh

Gudapati Priyadarsini
Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh

Mohammad Ghouse Mohiuddin
East Godavari, Andhra Pradesh

Mariya Fatima
Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh

Gollapudi Sushma
Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh

Mamidala Vasundara Devi
Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh

Md Nazia Begum
Kodad, Andhra Pradesh

Sobia Taureen
Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh

Ushasree Beniya
Guntur, Andhra Pradesh

N Geetha Sravani
Anantapur, Andhra Pradesh

Thirumala Swetha
Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh

V Preethi Arora
Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh

C Rama Venkatesh
Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh

Syed Mujamil Ahmad
Nizamabad, Andhra Pradesh

Asmitha Korutla
Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh

Tripuraneni Dharani
Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh

Jason Raj William Rapaka
East Godavari, Andhra Pradesh

Asma Fathima
Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh

Asa Narasaiah
Donakonda, Andhra Pradesh

Kadam Yogesh
Mudhol, Adilabad, Andhra Pradesh

M Sathish
Mandamarry, Andhra Pradesh

**Fellowship In Optometry – LVPEI, Hyderabad (13 months & 2 years)**

Mr Amit Kumar Verma
Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh

Mr S Koteswara Rao
Nellore, Andhra Pradesh

Ms Saba Inamdar
Mumbai, Maharashtra

Ms Aditya Singh
Dehradun, Uttarakhand

Mr Sauvik Mandal
Bhubaneswar, Orissa

Ms Sushweta Guha
Bhubaneswar, Orissa

Mr Tamal Chakraborty
Nadia, West Bengal

Mr Dhiraj Chakraborty
Nadia, West Bengal

Mr Priyangshu Chandra
Bir hun, West Bengal

Ms Satabdi Sarkar
Birati, West Bengal

Ms Tanima Ghosh
Hooghly, West Bengal

Mr Debarun Dutta
Kestopur, West Bengal

Mr Hriddhi Biswas
Guha Road, West Bengal

Mr Samrat Sarkar
24 Parganas, West Bengal

Mr Joshef Mollah
24 Parganas, West Bengal

Ms J Karamchandani Kirti
Jalagaon, Maharashtra

Ms H Sheethal Pai
Mangalore, Karnataka

Mr K Parthasarathi
Arakkonam, Tamilnadu

Mr Sandesh Sharma
Karnal, Haryana

Ms Esther Rani
Tirunelveli, Tamilnadu

Mr Dinesh R Mankar
Chandrapur, Maharashtra

Mr Pramod Kumar
Lakhimpuri, Uttar Pradesh

**Fellowship In Optometry – LVPEI, Bhubaneswar (1 year internship)**

Ms Mahasweta Chowdhury

Ms Bhaktiprada Sahoo

Mr Samik Bandhu Banerjee

Mr Dibyendu Pusti
### Vision Technician Program

The number of Vision Technician students in each batch has been increasing steadily. Of the 42 students in the junior batch 18 were sent by ICARE – LVPEI and 4 were from LVPEI Bhubaneswar. We need to develop new strategies to provide hands-on clinical training to more students.

#### August 2007 Batch

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<tr>
<td>Sunita</td>
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<td>K Anusuja</td>
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<td>Subir Kumar Paul</td>
<td>Darjeeling</td>
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<td>Deepak Rana</td>
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<td>K Roshan Bhai Shukkar Bhai</td>
<td>Dang, Gujarat</td>
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<td>Aslam Hussain</td>
<td>Indore, Madhya Pradesh</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bhupendra Jaiswal</td>
<td>Dewas, Madhya Pradesh</td>
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<td>Mahesandra Singh Parihar</td>
<td>Dewas, Madhya Pradesh</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ritesh Vishwakarma</td>
<td>Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh</td>
<td>CL Gupta Eye Institute, Moradabad</td>
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<tr>
<td>Goldy Singh</td>
<td>Aligarh, Uttar Pradesh</td>
<td>CL Gupta Eye Institute, Moradabad</td>
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<td>Kushal Pal Singh</td>
<td>Sambhal</td>
<td>CL Gupta Eye Institute, Moradabad</td>
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<tr>
<td>Huma Naaz</td>
<td>Moradabad, Uttar Pradesh</td>
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<td>Swayambhar Singh</td>
<td>Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh</td>
<td>CL Gupta Eye Institute, Moradabad</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rohit Varshney</td>
<td>Chandausi, Uttar Pradesh</td>
<td>Rotary Sunderlal Eye Hospital (OEU)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rosin George</td>
<td>Kothamangalam, Kerala</td>
<td>St Joseph's Hospital, Dharmpuri (OEU)</td>
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<td>Minu Muralidhtran</td>
<td>Yacharam, Andhra Pradesh</td>
<td>St. Gregorious Balagram Eye Hospital, Yacharam</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mohammed Qadir</td>
<td>Chandausi, Uttar Pradesh</td>
<td>Rotary Sunderlal Eye Hospital (OEU)</td>
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<td>Elsamma Thomas</td>
<td>Palakkad, Kerala</td>
<td>Assumption Hospital, Kanjipuzha, Kerala</td>
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<td>Saumya Ranjan Parida</td>
<td>Bhubaneswar, Orissa</td>
<td>LVPEI, Bhubaneswar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anshuman Garnayak</td>
<td>Bhubaneswar, Orissa</td>
<td>LVPEI, Bhubaneswar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Debashish Mahapatra</td>
<td>Bhubaneswar, Orissa</td>
<td>LVPEI, Bhubaneswar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arunima Mishra</td>
<td>Bhubaneswar, Orissa</td>
<td>LVPEI, Bhubaneswar</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### February 2008 Batch

Twenty-seven Vision Technician students started their training in February 2008. They include seven students from Sri Lanka, who will work on the Sri Lankan project of ICEE (Sydney).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<th>Institute</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mr Pandurang</td>
<td>Adilabad, Andhra Pradesh</td>
<td>LVPEI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms K Chandra Kala</td>
<td>Adilabad, Andhra Pradesh</td>
<td>LVPEI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms J Rajashekar</td>
<td>Prakasam, Andhra Pradesh</td>
<td>LVPEI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr D Srinu Kumar</td>
<td>Adilabad, Andhra Pradesh</td>
<td>LVPEI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr P Pundalik</td>
<td>Adilabad, Andhra Pradesh</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr R Naveen Kumar</td>
<td>Adilabad, Andhra Pradesh</td>
<td>LVPEI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Z Bheem Rao</td>
<td>Adilabad, Andhra Pradesh</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr N Kapil</td>
<td>Adilabad, Andhra Pradesh</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ms D Lavanya</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr Gaikwad Utham</td>
<td>Adilabad, Andhra Pradesh</td>
<td>LVPEI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr P Aravind Reddy</td>
<td>Adilabad, Andhra Pradesh</td>
<td>LVPEI</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Mr P Rajendra Prasad  
Mr V Pullaiah  
Mr K Srinivasa Reddy  
Mr M Prabhakar  
Ms P M Priyanka  
Mr R Aravind Kumar  
Ms K Kamalamma  
Mr Aslam Hussain  
Ms Baththirim Pedige Rasika Sanjeeewani  
Mr Yogage Vidya Priyajaanaa Jayarthna  
Mr Deniyge Gedara Sudeera Kulum Tissa Kumara  
Mr Kithawalana Kankanamalage Chandrika Niroshan  
Mr Gannoruwa Athauda Mudiyanselage Newan  
Ms Malawita Mohottalage Menaka Samanmali Malawita  
Ms Rubasingh Gamage Piumika Mihirani

ICARE – International Centre for Advancement of Rural Eye Care, LVPEI  
OEU – Operation Eyesight Universal, Canada  
KCCEC – Kishore Chand Chhordia Eye Centre, Hyderabad  
ICEE – International Centre for Eyecare Education, Australia

Other Eye Care Professional Training Programs

**Diploma in Community Eye Health – 2007 (Two weeks)**

- Mr Dinesh Kumar Srivastav  
  - Community Eye Care & Health Promotion (CEHP), Nepal  
- Mr Chhandu Lal Tharu  
  - Community Eye Care & Health Promotion (CEHP), Nepal

**Diploma in Community Eye Health – 2008 (6 Months)**

- Mr Shiva Shankar Eeda  
  - District Hospital, Mahabubnagar, Andhra Pradesh  
- Mr Siva Kumar Voleti Venkata  
  - District Hospital, Rajahmundry, Andhra Pradesh  
- Mr Ajay Kumar Shilagani  
  - Thotapally, Karimnagar district, Andhra Pradesh  
- Mr Krishnaiah Veerabrahmmam  
  - Keesara, Ranga Reddy district, Andhra Pradesh  
- Mr Narasimha Chary Veeravelli  
  - Subsidiary Health Centre, Malkajigiri, Ranga Reddy district  
- Mr Ramachandra Rao Boyina  
  - Kusimi, Srikakulam district, Andhra Pradesh  
- Mr Srinath Gomatam  
  - Gundla, Karimnagar district, Andhra Pradesh  
- Mr Mall Reddy Gade  
  - Parvathagiri, Warangal district, Andhra Pradesh  
- Mr Harinath Nehru Anupoju  
  - Kondapak, Medak district, Andhra Pradesh  
- Mr Ram Chander Velpula  
  - Dammmapeta, Khammam district, Andhra Pradesh  
- Mr Krishna Rao S V R  
  - Gurla, Vizianagaram district, Andhra Pradesh  
- Mr V Bhujianganta Reddy  
  - Devgoam, Nizamabad district, Andhra Pradesh  
- Mr M V Naganjaneyulu Akurati  
  - District Hospital, Ongole, Andhra Pradesh  
- Mr Bichanna Yerupula  
  - Nawabpet, Mahaboobnagar district, Andhra Pradesh  
- Mr Satyanarayana Sristi  
  - Mandapadu, Guntur district, Andhra Pradesh  
- Mr Md Sharizfuzzaman  
  - Mymensingh B N S B Eye Hospital, Bangladesh  
- Mr Bhabani Prasad Pant  
  - Nepal Netra Jyoti Sangh, Tripureshwar, Kathmandu, Nepal  
- Ms Jessie Irene ND Ankrah  
  - Korle Bu Teaching Hospital, Ghana, West Africa  
- Dr Shreyas S Patel  
  - Boston University School of Medicine, Boston, USA (3 Weeks)

**Low Vision and Rehabilitation (3 months)**

- Mr Purushottom Dhungana  
  - Kathmandu, Nepal  
- Mr Krishna Kant Yadav  
  - Ayodhya, Uttar Pradesh  
- Ms Manasi Mehta  
  - Thane, Maharashtra

**Eye Bank Technicians (3 months)**

- Mr Anif Mulyazam  
  - Jakarta, Indonesia  
- Mr Raveendra Nayak  
  - Mangalore, Karnataka  
- Mr R Srisyam  
  - Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh  
- Mr Nitin Sharma  
  - Jalandhar, Punjab  
- Mr Subhash C Shikder  
  - Dhaka, Bangladesh  
- Mr Mahadev Lekhwan  
  - Jaipur, Rajasthan  
- Ms S Shobha Rani  
  - Madanapally, Andhra Pradesh  
- Mr G Suresh Kumar Rao  
  - Nalgonda, Andhra Pradesh  
- Mr Rosikin  
  - Jakarta, Indonesia  
- Mr Gerald Mariungi Murithi  
  - Nairobi, Kenya  
- Mr K L S Prasad  
  - Vuvyur, Andhra Pradesh  
- Mr Om Prakash Pandey  
  - Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh  
- Mr SVR Krishna  
  - Visakapatnam, Andhra Pradesh  
- Mr Abhijit Saha  
  - Nadia, West Bengal  
- Mr J M Satya Ram  
  - Visakapatnam, Andhra Pradesh  
- Mr M Suresh  
  - Visakapatnam, Andhra Pradesh
### Hospital Team Training Programs

**Ophthalmic Nursing Assistant Trainees (2 years)**
- Ms B Vijaya Lakshmi  
  Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh
- Ms G Saritha  
  Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh
- Ms M Anitha  
  Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh
- Ms P Syamala  
  Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh
- Ms S Naga Jyothi  
  Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh
- Ms Y Kalyani  
  Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh
- Ms G Sandhya  
  Gudivada, Andhra Pradesh

**Ophthalmic Nursing Assistant Trainees (3 months)**
- Mrs A Radhabai  
  LVPEI, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh
- Mrs P Suseela  
  LVPEI, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh
- Ms Padmaja  
  LVPEI, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh
- Ms Varalakshimi  
  LVPEI, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh
- Ms Padmaja  
  LVPEI, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh
- Ms Banu Saraswathi  
  LVPEI, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh
- Ms Swetha  
  LVPEI, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh

**Operation Theatre Technicians (2 years)**
- Mr G Swamy  
  Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh
- Mr K Venkateshwar Rao  
  Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh
- Mr B Maheshwara Rao  
  Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh

**Operation Theatre Technicians (12 months)**
- Mr Varun Bharti  
  Moradabad
- Mr Pushpendra Kumar  
  Moradabad

**Operation Theatre Technicians (3 months)**
- Mr K Appala Raju  
  LVPEI, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh
- Mr V Gangadhar Bhupathi  
  LVPEI, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh

**Ophthalmic Maintenance Technicians (6 months)**
- Mr Yator James Kipruto  
  Kisumy, Kenya
- Mr Abdalla Omar Ismail  
  Mombasa, Kenya

**Patient Counsellors (3 months)**
- Ms Mothi Bai  
  LVPEI, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh
- Ms K Mary Prasanth  
  LVPEI, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh
- Mr B Sri Rama Phani  
  LVPEI, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh
- Mr KV Suresh Kumar  
  LVPEI, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh

**Swarna Bharat Eye Centre, Venkatachalam, Nellore district, Andhra Pradesh**
- Mr Mallikarjuna Komara  
  Administrative  
  1 Year
- Mr Rama Krishna Chapalli  
  OT Technician  
  6 Months
- Mr Sai Kumar Tenkayala  
  MRD & Stores Assistant  
  3 Months
- Mr Srinivasulu Majiiga  
  Biomedical & Maintenance  
  3 Months
- Mr Anil Kumar O  
  Patient Counselor  
  3 Months

**Eye Donation Counsellor (1 month)**
- Mr Bharat Kumar Shah  
  Jaipur, Rajasthan
- Mr Anif Mulyazam  
  Jakarta, Indonesia
- Mr Md Musa Mansury  
  Dhaka, Bangladesh
- Mr Pradeep Kumar Tamta  
  Meerut, Uttar Pradesh
- Ms Noor Saba  
  New Delhi
- Mr Rosikin  
  Jakarta, Indonesia
- Mr Gerald Mariungi Murithi  
  Nairobi, Kenya

**Eye Bank Ophthalmologists Observership (1 week)**
- Dr Daniel Kiage  
  Nairobi, Kenya
- Dr Mohd Shahbaaz  
  Aligarh, Uttar Pradesh
- Dr Suhas G Nagargoje  
  Beed, Maharashtra
- Ms Rakhi Rathore  
  Jaipur, Rajasthan
- Dr Millicent Kariuki  
  Nairobi, Kenya
- Dr Shashikant Pacharne  
  Ahmednagar, Maharashtra

**Eye Bank Manager (1 week)**
- Dr Daniel Kiage  
  Nairobi, Kenya
- Dr Mohd Shahbaaz  
  Aligarh, Uttar Pradesh
- Dr Suhas G Nagargoje  
  Beed, Maharashtra
- Ms Rakhi Rathore  
  Jaipur, Rajasthan

Community Eye Care & Community Based Rehabilitation

**Bhosle Gopal Rao Patel Eye Centre, Mudhol, Adilabad district**
- Mr Gadadhala Sayanna, Coordinator
- Mr Sonkamble Babu Rao, CEH Worker
- Mr Maggidi Sridhar, CEH Worker
- Mr Pingle Ashok, CEH Worker

**Kuchukulla Ramachandra Reddy Eye Centre, Thoodukurthy, Mahaboobnagar district**
- Ms Toom Sunitha, CEH Worker
- Mr Kothapally Raju, CEH Worker
- Mr Komara Venkataiah, CEH Worker

**Venkata Lakshmi Eye Centre, Karamchedu, Prakasam district**
- Mr Chennupati Seetharamaiah, Supervisor
- Mr Gummanampati Srinivasa Rao, CEH Worker
- Mr Valeru Venkat, CEH Worker
- Mr Yedluri Ramesh, CEH Worker
- Ms Sheik Parveen, CEH Worker

**Seshanna Chennawar Eye Centre, Adilabad, Adilabad district**
- Mr Meshram Santosh, CEC Worker
- Mr Mukkera Rakesh, CEH Worker
- Mr Battula Ushannar, CEH Worker

**Swarna Bharat Eye Centre, Venkatachalam, Nellore district, Andhra Pradesh**
- Mr Talabalapu Chinnaiya, CEH Worker
- Mr Voosi Rajesh, CEH Worker

**Paramahansa Yogananda Netralaya, Vemagiri, Rajahmundry, East Godavari district**
- Mr K V Satyanarayana, Coordinator
- Mr Chintakayala Narayana Murthy, CEH Worker
- Mr G Babji, CEH Worker

**Markapuram Eye Centre, Markapuram, Prakasam district**
- Mr Yedukondalu Nandyala, Administrative 1 Year
- Mr Brahma Naik Bilavath, OT Technician 6 Months
- Mr Sriram Naik Bilavath, OT Technician 6 Months
- Ms Adi Lakshmi Abburi, Patient Counselor 6 Months

**M S Reddy Lions Eye Hospital, Moula Ali, Hyderabad (1 month)**
- Shanker Anantwar, Field Worker

**Rotary Sunder Lal Eye Hospital, Bisauli Gate, Chandausi, Uttar Pradesh (1 month)**
- Amzad Khan, OT Technician

**Suddhakar & Sreekanth Ravi Eye Centre, Markapuram, Prakasam district (6 months)**
- Mr Yedukondalu Nandyala, Administrative fellow – 1 Year
- Mr Brahma Naik Bilavath, OT Technician
- Mr Sriram Naik Bilavath, OT Technician
- Ms Adi Lakshmi Abburi, Patient Counselor
- Sheik Siraj Ahmed, Bio-Medical & Maintenance Technician

**People's Initiative Network (PIN) Eye Health Training Program – July 19, 2007**
- Bro. Francis D'Silva, Hyderabad
- Bro. Linto, Hyderabad
- B Sophia, Hyderabad
- Nazeema Begum, Hyderabad
- Sr. Rosamma George, Hyderabad
- K Jayasree, Hyderabad
- J Natchram, Hyderabad
- Bro. Jomon, Hyderabad
Chaddami Lal Jagdish Saran Charitable Trust, Moradabad, Uttar Pradesh (1 year)
Chandra Shekhar Pant  Administrative fellow
Vivek Manucha  Administrative fellow
Varun Bharti  Operation theater technician
Pushpender Kumar  Operation theater technician
Mona Bharti  Ophthalmic nurse assistant
Charu Lamba  Ophthalmic nurse assistant
Susan Yeolene John  Ophthalmic nurse assistant
Manmeet Kaur  Ophthalmic nurse assistant

Child Eye Care Charitable Trust, Dang Tribal Centre, Gujarat (1 year)
D K Ramesh Bhai Patel  Administrative fellow
Yashoda Tulsya Bhoye  Ophthalmic nurse assistant
Sumitra Chandra Raut  Ophthalmic nurse assistant

Administrative Fellow - Training (1 year)
Siva Rama Prasad Ravi  Prakasam district
Vasu Babu Viravalli  Prakasam district
Ashok Gaddam  Adilabad district
Venkateswara Rao Miryala  Karamchedu, Prakasam district
Suresh Madasu  Mandamarri, Adilabad district

L V Prasad Eye Institute, Bhubaneswar, Orissa
1 year
Ms Sujata Hota  Patient Counsellor
Mr Manoj K Sahoo  Patient Counsellor
Ms Jharana Rout  Patient Counsellor
Susanta Kumar Mishra  Bio-Medical Technician
Prasant Kumar Nayak  Bio-Medical Technician

6 months
Rinku Naik  Ophthalmic nurse assistant
Jyotiprava Naik  Ophthalmic nurse assistant
Shradhanjali Behera  Ophthalmic nurse assistant
Jharana Rout  Ophthalmic nurse assistant
Kabita Sahoo  Ophthalmic nurse assistant
Gayatri Dehuri  Ophthalmic nurse assistant

Training Program for Field Investigators
(Child to Child and Child to Family Communication Project)
Mr Narayana Murthy Chintakayala  Vemagiri, Rajahmundry, West Godavari District
Mr C Bheema Raju  Bijnapally, Mahaboobnagar District
Mr Ramakrishna Dathurka  Utnoor, Adilabad District

Andhra Pradesh Tribal Eye Care Project Program Coordinators Training Program
Supported by Andhra Pradesh Right to Sight Society, Hyderabad (10 days)
Sriharsha Gudala  K.Gangavaram Mandal, East Godavari district, Andhra Pradesh
Sachin D  Kaggaznagar, Adilabad district, Andhra Pradesh
Satish Kandakatla  Athmakur, Warangal district, Andhra Pradesh
Pratap Kumar B  Tenali, Guntur district, Andhra Pradesh
Harish Vijay Gudala  K Gangavaram Mandal, East Godavari district, Andhra Pradesh
Rama Rao JTV  Peapully, Kurnool district, Andhra Pradesh
Gnana Sundara Rao Balijepalli  Tenali, Guntur district, Andhra Pradesh
Rajendra Kumar Maddala  Yelswaram, East Godavari district, Andhra Pradesh
Chinnari Bondala  Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh
Sridevi Tirupathi  Parapuram, Koturu, Srikakulam district, Andhra Pradesh
Venkata Surya Kanthi B  Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh

Vision Guardian Training Program
In Collaboration with N T R Memorial Trust, Hyderabad
Janaki Panthagi  RTC Colony, Medchal, Ranga Reddy District
Swathi Kotha  Athivelly, Medchal, Ranga Reddy District
Ramadevi Cheliveru  Muneerabad, Medchal, Ranga Reddy District
Renuka Puliwaru  Dabipur, Medchal, Ranga Reddy District
Sandhya Kanukauti  Medchal, Ranga Reddy District
Krishnaveni Sandhila  Pudur, Medchal, Ranga Reddy District
Shobha Poojari  Dabipur, Medchal, Ranga Reddy District
Jayanthi Bachu  Dabipur, Medchal, Ranga Reddy District
Padmavathi Dakur  Srirangavaram, Medchal, Ranga Reddy District
Maheshwari Gorakanti  Girimapur, Medchal, Ranga Reddy District
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Area of Training</th>
<th>Duration</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mr Samip S Malkan</td>
<td>Dahod, Gujarat</td>
<td>Optometry-POLTC</td>
<td>6 months</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr Suryakanth</td>
<td>Dahod, Gujarat</td>
<td>Counselor-POLTC</td>
<td>3 months</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ms Hirut</td>
<td>Ethiopia</td>
<td>Nurse</td>
<td>1 month</td>
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<td>Mr Teckle Benti</td>
<td>Ethiopia</td>
<td>Clinic Manager</td>
<td>1 month</td>
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<td>Dr Pradeep N Sawardekar</td>
<td>Child Eye Care Charitable, Mumbai</td>
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<td>Mr V Clement Godfrey</td>
<td>Emmanuelle Blind Relief Society, Coonoor, Tamil Nadu</td>
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<td>Mr Satyendra Pal Singh</td>
<td>Rotary Sundarlal Eye Hospital, Chandausi, Uttar Pradesh</td>
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<td>Mr P D K Ramesh Bhai</td>
<td>Child Eye Care Charitable Trust, Dang Tribal Centre, Gujarat</td>
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<td>Mr Seby Poulouse</td>
<td>Little Flower Hospital Annex Koonamavu, Angamaly, Kerala</td>
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<td>Mr Amit Sudhakar Marne</td>
<td>Jnana Prabodhini Medical Trust, Pune</td>
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<td>Ms Simi Jose</td>
<td>Little Flower Hospital, Angamaly</td>
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<td>Ms Janaki Karki</td>
<td>Thakur Sitaram Sevakendra, Malda, West Bengal</td>
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<td>Sr Ushus Maria</td>
<td>Assumption Eye Hospital, Kanhirapuzha, Kerala</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sr Pavana</td>
<td>St. Joseph's Hospital, Kothamangalam, Kerala</td>
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Bausch & Lomb School of Optometry

Education Day

Education Day was held on October 1, 2007. Dr G Chandra Sekhar as Director of L V Prasad Eye Institute, Hyderabad, welcomed the graduating students, guests and staff. Professor H Barry Collin, Former Dean, School of Optometry, University of New South Wales, Sydney, was the chief guest.

Professor V S Rao, Director, off-campus programmes, BITS, Pilani, and Director, BITS Hyderabad Campus, presented the BS Optometry degree certificates to the students. Dr Prashant Garg, Director – Education, LVPEI, and Prof Coen de Jong, Director – Education Development, and Principal, Bausch & Lomb School of Optometry, reported on the activities of their departments.

Prof Coen de Jong introduced the graduating students; all 20 students of Batch 2003 completed the bachelor’s course in optometry. The students are Ms Aditi Desai, Ms Amruthavalli Dasapati, Mr Anand Singh Kholia, Ms Arifa Begum, Mr V Hari Krishna, Ms Kalika Bandamwar, Ms Krupa Philip, Mr Kulbhushan Sachdeva, Mr S P V R Naresh, Ms Prachi Lathkar, Ms Sen Paulami Ashoke, Ms Sneha Kataria, Mr V Sumanth, Ms Sumit Kumar, Ms S Swathi, Ms S Swathi Lakshmi, Ms Swetha Velpula and Mr Vardaan Sood.

Of these seven students were placed in distinction, 10 in the first division and two in the second division. Ms Aditi Desai was declared the Best Outgoing Student based on her highest average throughout the four years of the course. For her outstanding performance in the clinic and at the school she was awarded the Prize of Excellence, a glass artwork made by Mr Sisir Sahana, one of LVPEI’s artists-in-residence.

The first-ranked student of each batch, including the first year student who made the best admission exam, received the Carl Zeiss Scholarship. These were Mr Viswanathan, Ms Khuseeya Shareef, Ms Ritika Kataria and Mr Labishetty Vivek. They were presented certificates by Mr Ramachandra Bhat on behalf of Carl Zeiss.

The Diploma Ophthalmic Techniques (DOT) students, who participated in the first two years of the bachelor degree course, also received certificates. The DOT students are Ms Akila Appla, Mr Bharath Kumar, Ms Kiranmayee, Ms P Lavanya, Mr Rahul Leekha, Ms G Sagarika, Ms Shreya Adhiya, Ms Vasavi and Mr Veerendranath.

B S Optometry

The selection of students for the B S Optometry Course Batch 2007 was held on July 15, 2007 (written exams) and July 18, 2007 (interviews). The results were declared the same day. This year the written exams for the Birla Institute of Technology and Science (BITS), Pilani, degree courses in optometry in Chennai and Hyderabad were identical and conducted simultaneously. The interviews were held on different days with different teams. The interview team for Hyderabad comprised:

- Prof Coen de Jong, Principal, BLSO (Chairperson)
- Dr Prashant Garg, faculty, LVPEI
- Dr Ramu, coordinator, BITS
- Mr I Sreedhar, coordinator, BITS

A total of 29 students have enrolled in the course; while 28 are from Andhra Pradesh, one student is from Punjab.
Scholarships
At the beginning of each academic year the five best students in a batch get a scholarship of Rs 30,000 and a certificate. The scholarship for the best student is given by Carl Zeiss, while the other four receive LVPEI scholarships.

Batch – 2006 (I Year): Ritika Kataria, V NIrosa, V Sri Latha, S Jaya Sowjanya, Uzma Fatima

Sponsored students
The Institute has taken the initiative to offer full sponsorships to promising students who cannot afford to pay for the degree course and commit to work in LVPEI for a period of five years after completing the degree course. Every year four Vision Technician students who have proven themselves will be selected for this sponsorship. In addition, selected candidates can apply for the sponsorship. For the year 2007 – 2008, 11 students were selected. They are:

Batch 2007: Ushasree Beniya, Asa Narasaiah, Kadam Yogesh, M Sathish, Syed Mujamil Ahmad, Mohammed Ghouse Mohiuddin, Md Nazia Begum, Mohammed Shafee, Kelli Vidayasagar
Batch 2006: P Hari Kumar, S Bharani

Other news

IGNOU – LVPEI degree course in Bhubaneswar
LVPEI Bhubaneswar has started a B Sc (Hons) course in Optometry & Ophthalmic Techniques. The 4-year degree course is being conducted in collaboration with the Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU). All 11 students are Vision Technicians.

Other courses
At the request of Sight Savers International we will conduct a four-week course in “Dispensing Optics” for students from Karnataka who will be working there in rural centres.

Tradition Day
The third-year students organised Tradition Day on September 7, 2007, where the students and staff came in their traditional clothes. The students decorated the school for the occasion and organized a cultural program held in the scenic environs of the open-air theatre at the school.

Screening Program
On November 14, 2007, the Thakur Hari Prasad Institute of Research and Rehabilitation for the Mentally Handicapped organised a Health Camp, where third-year students from BLSO conducted eye screening of visitors.

Visual Refractometer workshop
On November 16 and 17, 2007, the International Centre for Eyecare Education, Australia, and Essilor conducted a Visual Refractometer workshop at Chennai. Mr Shyam Sunder, faculty, optometry, participated in the workshop.

External Examiners
In December 2007 Manipal University invited our faculty Mr Vijay Kumar as external examiner for the Manipal university optometry students. In December 2007 our faculty member Mr M Vinod Kumar was invited as external examiner in the School of Optometry in BVP University in Pune.

Water purification plant
The new water purification plant of Water Health India Private Limited was inaugurated on March 19, 2008, at Kismatpur by Dr G N Rao and Prof Coen. Staff of Water Health Private Limited and LVPEI staff and students attended the event.

Optometry Quiz
On December 18, 2007, an Optometry Quiz was organised for the BS optometry students in which eight groups participated.

External Interns
For the first time BLSO admitted external interns. Two students from Pune participated for nine months (August 2007 to April 2008) in the internship program.
Dr Anil K Mandal’s instructional video ‘Surgical management of infantile glaucoma with secondary corneal hydrops’ won first prize in the surgical video section at the 17th annual meeting of the Glaucoma Society of India.

Award-winning videos produced by CAVU were displayed in the Video Theatre at the 39th meeting of the Andhra Pradesh State Ophthalmic Society at Tirupati. September 29, 2007.

The Leprosy Mission, Kolkata, dubbed the patient information video on cataract into four languages – Bhojpuri, Tamil, Bengali and Marathi.

Our video on ‘Epidemic Conjunctivitis’ was telecast by ETV2 as part of the Sukhibhava health program on September 9, 2007.

Videos submissions to the oculoplasty conference Cutting Edge 2007 were compiled and displayed in the video theatre during the conference. More than 200 presentations were edited with voice and compressed to produce a conference DVD.

The International Centre for Eyecare Education (ICEE) commissioned CAVU to make a video on Vision Technicians from Sri Lanka; it was produced for Optometry Giving Sight, Vision Source doctors and the ICEE for use in fundraising activities.

We produced the first set of basic videos on squint.

CAVU also completed audio-video re-cabling from the LVPEI Operation Theatre to CAVU to the auditorium. The live surgery video signal feed to the new tele-network videoconference system has been improved. Video re-cabling from some of the outpatient departments and operation rooms to CAVU for live surgery demonstrations was completed. Audiovisual connections were established at LVPEI Visakhapatnam to transmit cataract conference proceedings as live relay feed to the library.

The Central Audio-Visual Unit received a grant from the American Cancer Society for children with retinoblastoma. Nutritional food items fortified with calcium and iron and a goody-bag of toys, scarf and hat were provided to children with eye cancer at LVPEI, Hyderabad. Alcon Laboratories India (Pvt) Ltd. also donated 500 bags for distribution among these children.

Over 1000 videos were edited for presentations by LVPEI fellows and consultants.

Videos Produced – 19

- The Pyramid of Eye Care – Dr Usha Raman, Ms Sarika Antony, Mr Sam J Balasundaram
- Surgical Management of Infantile Glaucoma with Secondary Corneal Hydrops – Dr Anil K Mandal
- Considerations in Pediatric Cataract Surgery – Dr Sushma Tejwani
- Deep Lamellar Keratoplasty: The Modified Big Bubble Technique – Dr Rishi Swarup
- Tackling Surprises during Manual Small Incision Cataract Surgery – Dr Rishi Swarup & Dr Manish Malhotra
- Challenging Situations in Pediatric Cataract Surgery – Dr Murali K Aasuri
- Inferior Oblique Myectomy – Dr Ramesh Murthy
- Superior Oblique Tendon Tuck – Dr Ramesh Murthy
- Instrumentation for Squint Surgery – Dr Ramesh Murthy
- Fun Camp for Visually Challenged Children, Winter 2007 – Ms Beula Christy
- Vitamin A and the Eye (Patient Education Video in Marathi)
- Cosmetic Management of Blind Eyes – Dr Ekta Aggarwal and Mr Kuldeep Raizada
- Considerations in Pediatric Cataract Surgery (re-edited) – Dr Sushma Tejwani
- My Turn: Information for Outpatients – Dr Raja Narayanan
- The Day of My Surgery: Information for the Surgical Patient – Dr Raja Narayanan
- Gold-weight Implant for Facial Palsy: Trial and Surgical Technique – Dr Milind Naik
- My Eye, My Life: All about Artificial Eyes – Mr Kuldeep Raizada and Ms Deepa Raizada
- Activities of Vision Technicians from Sri Lanka – edited for Prof Coen De Jong
- Laser Surgery for ROP – edited for Dr Subhadra Jalali
Guest Lectures

LVPEI, Hyderabad

Dr Meenakshi Mukerjee, noted literary critic and retired professor, University of Hyderabad, delivered a lecture on *English in an Uneven Land*. April 11, 2007

Dr Dan Martin, Interim Clinical Chair, Department of Ophthalmology, Emory University School of Medicine, Atlanta, delivered a lecture on *CATT trail and AREDS*. April 18, 2007

Dr Swaroop Vedula, University of Pennsylvania Health System, delivered a lecture on *Overview of systematic reviews and the concept*. April 25, 2007

Dr Evita Fernandez, Consultant Obstetrician at Fernandez Hospital, delivered a lecture on *The social and medical reality of HIV - AIDS: The experience at Maternity Clinic*. May 9, 2007

Dr Balamurali K Ambati, Associate Professor in Ophthalmology & Director of Medical College of Georgia, delivered a lecture on *Interesting Clinical Cases and Corneal angiogenies*. June 8-9, 2007

Mr Babu Gogineni, humanist and rationalist, and Director of International Humanist and Ethical Union, delivered a lecture on *Globalisation and its Contents*. June 13, 2007

Dr Ramachandra Pararajasegaram, Consultant for Program for Blindness and Deafness, WHO, Sri Lanka, delivered a lecture on *Quality Assurance in Eye Care*. June 22, 2007

Dr Prasanta Mahapatra, Commissioner of Inquiries, Andhra Pradesh Government, and Honorary President, Institute of Health Systems, Hyderabad, delivered a guest lecture on *Social evolution of hospitals*. July 11, 2007

Justice TNC Rangarajan, retired Justice, High Court of Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad, and Member, Ethics Committee, LVPEI, delivered a guest lecture on *Conflict resolution and the courts*. August 8, 2007

Prof Michael Bach, President, ISCEV, and Faculty, University of Friburg, Germany, was visiting faculty from August 22-24, 2007. He delivered lectures and had interactive session with fellows and faculty on the following topics:
- Optical visual illusions
- How to make a presentation
- Basics and advances in VEP
- Biomedical statistics
- Multifocal ERG

Dr Sachin Kedar and Dr Deepta Ghate, Department of Neurology, University of Mississippi Medical Centre, Mississippi, University of Nebraska Medical Centre, Omaha, USA, delivered a guest lecture on *Homonymous hemianopia revisited and Fluorophotometer in glaucoma and ocular drug delivery* respectively. September 1, 2007

Dr Lalitha Iyer, soft skills trainer, ThinkSoft, delivered a guest lecture on *Stress management techniques in the care giving profession*. September 12, 2007

Ms Sarada Natarajan, Visiting Faculty, University of Hyderabad, delivered a lecture on *The autonomy of art and censorship*. October 10, 2007

The wide network LVPEI has established with institutions and organisations worldwide enables it to draw on an international resource base of senior consultants and experts in every field of eye care. The eminent faculty who delivered lectures at LVPEI during the year were:
Mr Edward S Cohen, Senior Vice President, Satyam School of Leadership, delivered the LVPEI Foundation Day guest lecture on Nurturing leadership culture: A challenge for growing organizations. October 17, 2007

Prof P Namperumalsamy, Chairman, Aravind Eyecare System, delivered the Dr Rustam D Ranji Rotary Lecture. October 24, 2007

Prof Robyn H Guymer, Head, Macular Research Unit, Centre for Eye Research Australia, delivered a lecture on Changes in Bruch's membrane and AMD. October 30, 2007

Prof Paul N Baird, Head, Ocular Genetics Unit, Centre for Eye Research Australia, delivered a lecture on Current understanding of genes in AMD. October 31, 2007

Mr N Sreekumar, Prayas Energy Group, Pune, spoke on Energy Security – what it means to us as a nation and as individuals. November 14, 2007

Dr J Bronwyn Bateman, Professor, Department of Ophthalmology, University of Colorado, spoke on Potpourri of ophthalmic genetics. December 4, 2007

Dr Asa D Morton, Assistant Professor of Surgery, Uniformed Services University, San Diego, USA, presented a 3 Dimensional Anatomy slide show. December 15, 2007

Dr Shrikant R Bharadwaj from Indiana University, School of Optometry, USA, spoke on General overview of how focusing and eye alignment works in humans – adaptable nature of the human focusing mechanism. December 28, 2007

Prof Kancha Ilaiah, Professor of political science, Osmania University, delivered a lecture on Social & cultural inequalities – a medical dimension. January 9, 2008

Dr Achyut Samant, Vice Chancellor, Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology, Bhubaneswar, delivered a lecture on What goes in to building institutions. January 15, 2008

Dr Robert Chappell, Associate Professor of Ophthalmology, Jules Stein Eye Institute, UCLA School of Medicine, Los Angeles, USA, delivered a lecture on Alpha B-crystallin: The common theme in cataract, cancer and neural degeneration. February 16, 2008

Prof Shukti Chakravarti, Associate Professor, Departments of Medicine, Cell Biology and Ophthalmology, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Maryland, USA, delivered a lecture on Corneal diseases: Help from mouse models. February 20, 2008

Dr Arun Singh, Director, Department of Ophthalmic Oncology, Cleveland, Ohio, USA, delivered a guest lecture on Interactive lecture on tumors of the eye. February 29, 2008

Dr Monty M Montoya, Sight Life, USA, and Paul Prof J Dubord, Chairman of the Board, Sight Life Eye Bank, Canada, delivered a guest lecture on Recent findings of Top EBAA Eye Banks and Corneal transplantation respectively. March 3, 2008

Mr Pradeep Krishnatray, social researcher, Centre for Research and Education (CREED), delivered a guest lecture on Surviving the Trends. March 5, 2008

Dr Torkel Snellingen, International Health, University of Tromso, Norway, delivered a lecture on Innovations in user oriented health information management systems at the point of care. March 8, 2008

LVPEI, Kismatpur, Hyderabad

On September 29, 2007, Prof Barry Colin and Dr Robert Chappell gave guest lectures at the Bausch and Lomb School of Optometry, Kismatpur. Prof Collin spoke on age-related maculopathy. Dr Chappell shared his experiences in the use of colour to help dyslectic children. Prof Barry Colin is former Dean of the School of Optometry, University of New South Wales, Australia. Dr Chappell is president of the World Council of Optometry

A guest lecture on ‘Leprosy & Cataract’ was given by Dr Caleb from Nigeria for the faculty of ICARE and the DCEH 2008 batch. February 5, 2008

LVPEI, Bhubaneswar

Prof Anand Swaroop, PhD, Harold F Falls Collegiate Professor of Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences, University of Michigan Kellogg Eye Centre, Ann Arbor, USA, delivered a guest lecture on The promise of genetics for better management of retinal diseases. August 20, 2007

Dr Eric E Sutter, PhD, from the Smith-Kettlewell Eye Research Institute, San Francisco, USA, delivered a guest lecture on Multifocal Electroretinography. September 1, 2007
Seminars & Workshops

LVPEI, Hyderabad

The LVP – Novartis Macula Center Symposium on age related macular degeneration was held on April 15, 2007. A writers’ workshop was held on May 21, 2007, to provide an opportunity for people working on scientific and academic papers to receive help with structure and language issues and polish their work. Eight researchers participated in the workshop, which was coordinated by Dr Usha Raman.

The 38th Indian Contact Lens Educators Program (ICLEP) basic course was conducted from June 29 – July 2, 2007; 91 delegates participated.

The LVP – Novartis Macular Center Age Related Macular Degeneration Symposium was held on July 15, 2007; there were 10 participants.

The 16th annual meeting of the Indian Eye Research Group, held at LVPEI, Hyderabad, from July 28-29, 2007, was a huge success. Over 80 external delegates from various institutions in India attended the meeting. Dr Samuel Zigler Jr from John Hopkins University delivered the Bireswar Chakrabarti Memorial Oration.

LVPEI’s second workshop on Good Clinical Practice was held on August 19, 2007; it was attended by 55 participants. The guest faculty was Dr Sauren Das from Excel Life Sciences, a site management organization for clinical research, who conducted the program. GCP training is a must for all those involved in research as investigators, co-investigators, study team optometrists or research coordinators. GCP certification is a prerequisite for starting research projects. The workshop provides participants guidelines for conducting clinical trials effectively; they also receive certificates and course material.

A Hands-on Workshop on Visual Electrophysiology was conducted at LVPEI, Hyderabad, from August 24-25, 2007, with 87 registered participants. The workshop included lectures, practicals and hands-on experience in visual electrophysiology.

The XLV annual symposium of International Society for Clinical Electrophysiology of Vision (ISCEV) was held in Hyderabad from August 25-29, 2007. A total of 237 participants interacted during the meeting, which was organized by LVPEI, Hyderabad. A total of 188 scientific delegates from 24 countries across 5 continents attended the scientific sessions. The program included high quality 55 oral presentations, 3 keynote addresses, 39 posters and an award lecture. The trade exhibition had 15 trade display counters of major international electrophysiology equipment manufacturers.

The inaugural of the main ISCEV symposium had a traditional Kuchipudi dance program, followed by a Bollywood filmi-style dance. The day-long intense scientific sessions were offset by fun and revelry in the evenings, including vignettes of Indian culture, tradition and cuisine. The ISCEV Olympics comprised the vigorous ‘kho-kho’, a high-pitched conch blowing competition, and sari (ladies) and dhoti (gentlemen) tying contests. A visit to the Ramoji Film City, the Golconda fort, Gandipet Lake, a ‘holi’ playing session and a dance ballet performance were other highlights. A grand gala dinner brought the curtain down on a very satisfying week of hard scientific sessions coupled with evenings full of warmth and fun.

The Eleventh Dr C Syamala Bhaskaran Endowment Lecture was held on September 24, 2007. This year’s guest speaker Dr Baruch D Kuppermann, Professor, Department of Ophthalmology, University of California, USA, spoke on age-related macular degeneration. Dr Syamala Bhaskaran and Dr C S Bhaskaran, along with Dr G Chandrasekhar, presented the Oration Award to Prof Kuppermann.

An ROP follow-up workshop supported by Sight Savers International was held at LVPEI, Hyderabad, on November 30, 2007. Twenty delegates from centres that had undergone training at LVPEI and had set up services on Retinopathy of Prematurity, supported by the Sight Savers International ROP grant, were invited. The objectives of the workshop were: to review the experience and performance of these centres involved in ROP related services; understand the challenges faced in addressing ROP and possible solutions; and identify ways to scale up the ROP related work to reach the maximum population. The program was chaired by Dr Subhadra Jalali, LVPEI, and coordinated by experts including Prof Clare Gilbert, International Centre for Eye Health, London, UK, and consultant, SSI; Dr Mangat Dogra from PGIMER, Chandigarh; and Mr Pankaj Vishwakarma of Sight Savers International.

To mark the occasion a seminar ‘Eye on the Future’, a comprehensive scientific symposium on eye health and eye disorders of children, was held on December 1-2, 2007. The international faculty included Dr Haroon Awan, Childhood Blindness in Pakistan, Sight Savers International, Pakistan; Dr Bronwyn Bateman, Director, Rocky Mountain Lions Eye Institute, Denver, USA; Dr Hannah Faal, Senior Eye Care Programme Consultant, West Africa, Sight Savers International, Ghana; Dr Clare Gilbert, Reader in International Centre for Eye Health (ICEH), London, UK; Dr John Lee, Moorfields Eye Hospital, UK; Dr Marilyn Miller, University of Illinois, Chicago, USA; Dr Ken Nischal, Great Ormond St. Hospital for Children, London, UK; Dr R Pararajsegaram, consultant for
Program for Blindness and Deafness, WHO, Sri Lanka; and Dr Abu Raihan, Country director, ORBIS International, Bangladesh.

A Live Surgical Workshop was conducted the day before, while the second day was dedicated to strabismus. The seminar was attended by 235 delegates, who found the program very useful and informative. (See pictures on page 18)

A Hospital Based Program on Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus was conducted at LVPEI, Hyderabad. Dr J Bronwyn Bateman (Professor, Department of Ophthalmology, University of Colorado) was the faculty for the program, which was attended by 38 delegates. December 3-7, 2007.

The 39th Indian Contact Lens Education Program (ICLEP) Basic and Advanced course was conducted from December 6-10, 2007. A total of 91 delegates participated – 120 for the basic and 70 for the advanced program.

The 2nd annual meeting of the Indian Association of Ophthalmic Pathology was held on December 15, 2007, at Patodia Auditorium, LVPEI, Hyderabad. The participants included pathologists, former cornea fellows and faculty, some delegates of Cutting Edge 2007 conference and fellows. The quality of histopathology sections/photography displayed during the talks were appreciated by everyone. A total of 91 delegates attended the meeting, in addition to 23 faculty and 20 fellows.

Cutting Edge 2007
Cutting Edge 2007, the joint annual meeting of the Oculoplastics Association of India (OPAI) and the Asia Pacific Society of Ophthalmic Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery (APSOPRS) was held at Hyderabad International Convention Centre, Hyderabad, December 13-16, 2007. Almost 500 delegates participated in the meeting.

LVPEI, Bhubaneswar
‘Master Stroke’ – Cataract Seminar
A seminar ‘Master Stroke – Cataract’ was organized at LVPEI Bhubaneswar on July 7, 2007, to discuss advanced phaco surgery in different situations. Led by Dr Abhay R Vasavada, the resource persons for the seminar were Dr S T Muralidhar, Dr N R Dhanuka, Dr Sujata Das and Dr Srikant K Sahu.

National Seminar on ‘Vision for Children’

Mrs Hema Malini, Brand Ambassador of VISION 2020: The Right to Sight – India, attended the last session and also interacted with the young staff of the institute. Over a 100 delegates from across the country comprising ophthalmologists, INGOs, NGOs and social workers in the eye care sector attended the seminar. Twenty resource persons from reputed eye institutions shared their expertise with the delegates. The seminar included lectures, panel discussion and a question and answer session. (See also page 29)

Retina Congress
The XII Retina Congress was organized at LVPEI Bhubaneswar, December 7-9, 2007, with Dr Soumyav Basu as the organizing secretary. The main aim of the congress was to create a platform for lively interactive discussion with national and international faculty. Forty delegates from different parts of the country took part in the congress, along with 14 national and international faculty. There were seven trade delegates.

Public Education Fora
The Institute continues to conduct monthly Public Education Forums to create awareness and disseminate information to the members of the public. Each Forum focuses on an eye disease or service and details the treatment options, risk-benefit ratio, and suggestions for better eye health. Senior faculty of the subspecialty are on hand to address the concerns of the audience. The initiative draws enthusiastic participation from people from all walks of life. The Public Education Fora held during the year focused on cataract, diabetic retinopathy, refractive surgery, Botox, eye trauma, age-related macular degeneration, ocular prosthesis, and cosmetic surgery.
**LVPEI, Visakhapatnam**

An **Eye Banking and Cornea Meet** was held on August 26, 2007. It was jointly organized by LVPEI along with the VEBART trust. The faculty included both external experts and our faculty from all campuses. Over 80 ophthalmologists attended the seminar from around Visakhapatnam.

The **Cataract & Cornea Seminar** organized from November 3-4, 2007, included guest faculty from Chennai, Ahmedabad, and from LVPEI. Over 80 delegates attended. This included didactic lectures, interactive sessions and practical wet lab sessions.

The guest faculty included Dr Srinivas K Rao, Chennai; Dr Prema Padmanabhan, Chennai; and Dr Abhay Vasavada, Ahmedabad. Among the LVPEI faculty were Dr VS Sangwan and Dr Pravin V Krishna from Hyderabad, Dr Sujata Das and Dr Srikant Sahu from Bhubaneswar, and the host faculty. A special point of attraction for the delegates was the small incision cataract surgery and phacoemulsification Wet Lab, held on the pre-conference day, November 2. The participants were very pleased with the hands-on skills imparted.

**World Glaucoma Day**

World Glaucoma Day was celebrated across all the three campuses of LVPEI on March 6, 2008. To commemorate the occasion, a Glaucoma Update was conducted from March 8-9, 2008, at LVPEI Visakhapatnam. The faculty for the program included Dr Ronnie George, Sankara Nethralaya, Chennai; Dr R Ramakrishnan, Aravind Eye Hospital, Tirunelveli; Dr C V Gopala Raju, Visakha Eye Hospital, Visakhapatnam; Dr G R Reddy, Sri Venkateswara Nethralaya, Thadepalligudem; as well as the senior faculty of L V Prasad Eye Institute's three campuses. The interactive seminar was conducted across all the three campuses via video-conference facility. A trade fair was also organized, where seven companies displayed their products.
Eye Research

Conference participation, publications, successful grant applications, and, of course, at the bottom of it all is the work that makes it all possible and the work that makes it worthwhile, in the clinics and in the laboratories of the institute. The research program at LVPEI continues to expand, with increasing emphasis on frontline areas of research such as regenerative medicine and nanotechnology, while continuing to look for answers from molecular genetics and biochemistry, and participating in multicentric clinical trials.
Prof Brien Holden Eye Research Centre

All research at L V Prasad Eye Institute is conducted through its constituent arm, the Hyderabad Eye Research Foundation (HERF), which is recognized by the Indian Government’s Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR) as a Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (SIRO). HERF continues to compete for and receive grants from all over the world to conduct cutting edge research on the eye. The Prof Brien Holden Eye Research Centre (BHERC) investigates the causes and treatment strategies through its various components, namely the Champalimaud Translational Centre (C-TRACER), the Jhaveri Microbiology Centre, the Saroja A Rao Immunology Laboratory, the Kallam Anji Reddy Molecular Genetics Laboratory, the Ophthalmic Pathology Laboratory, the Sudhakar and Sreekanth Ravi Stem Cell Biology Laboratory, and the clinical research laboratories. Each of these components has been named after its donor, in recognition of their generous support.

Support and recognition

Research at HERF has concentrated on the molecular and functional genetics of inherited and some age-related eye diseases, devising molecular diagnostics for early detection and to seek targets where effective intervention can occur, microbiology of eye infections, biochemical features of cataract, and stem cell technology for reconstruction of the damaged ocular outer surface. Support for these projects have come from competitive grants received from the Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Department of Science and Technology (DST), Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR), and the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) – all from India, as well as the National Eye Institute (NEI, National Institutes of Health), USA.

Thanks to the recently formalized US – India eye research collaboration, several joint research projects have been initiated at HERF, jointly with researchers in the US. Likewise, collaborative research has been initiated with colleagues in Australia and Canada through the DBT-sponsored bilateral Indo-Australian and Indo-Canadian programs. In addition, HERF is one of the four pillars of the multinational research and development group called Vision CRC (operating from Sydney, Australia), and conducts research on its behalf on the genetics of myopia, as well as a series of clinical studies such as on antibacterial contact lenses and corneal onlays.

The Institute is recognized as an external research centre by the University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad; Birla Institute of Technology & Science (BITS), Pilani; and the University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia. This enables research scholars from LVPEI to register with, and obtain their Ph D degrees from these universities. Collaborative research has also been forged with colleagues at the Centre for Cellular & Molecular Biology (CCMB), Centre for DNA Fingerprinting & Diagnostics (CDFD), National Institute of Nutrition (NIN), and University of Hyderabad – all in Hyderabad, at the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, and the National Brain Research Centre, Manesar, Haryana and Indian Statistical Institute (ISI), Kolkata. These allow researchers at LVPEI to access state-of-the-art equipment and sophisticated facilities at these centers.
Clinical Research
LVPEI’s multidisciplinary clinical research is of international standards and is sponsored by Indian funding agencies and multinational companies from USA and France. The group conducts not only intramural clinical research, but also participates in multicenter clinical trials. Each clinical research project and trial goes through a rigorous examination by an independent Institutional Review Board (IRB), for its scientific and ethical aspects and only those that are approved are taken up.

Clinical research has also focused on the suitability of using extended wear contact lenses. This involves recruitment of volunteers and monitoring comfort levels and related factors upon the use of contact lenses over a period of time. Another area of study is the efficacy, pharmacodynamics and related features of ophthalmic drugs and antibiotics. Many of the studies are conducted in collaboration with leading pharmaceutical companies.

Champalimaud Translational Centre
The year's most significant event was the setting up of the Champalimaud Translational Centre for Eye Research at LVPEI in January 2008. The Champalimaud Foundation, based in Lisbon, Portugal, was set up on the bequest of the late Portuguese entrepreneur and philanthropist, António de Sommer Champalimaud. At the end of 2004 it was incorporated as the Anna de Sommer Champalimaud and Dr Carlos Montez Champalimaud Foundation, in honour of the benefactor's parents. The Foundation has a long-term commitment to support medical research, in particular neurology, oncology and vision sciences.

The Champalimaud Foundation and L V Prasad Eye Institute have agreed on the development of a vast program of translational research through the establishment of the Champalimaud Translational Centre for Eye Research or C-TRACER. C-TRACER will focus on the following areas:

- Research and therapy through the utilisation of stem cells in vision-related illnesses;
- Translational research utilising existing and novel clinical methodologies with the objective of furthering the knowledge of vision in ways that can be readily applied to patients;
- Exchange programs involving scientists chosen by LVPEI and the Champalimaud Foundation; and
- Introduction of capacity building programs for developing Lusophone countries such as Mozambique, Angola, Timor and others.

With the creation of C-TRACER, the Champalimaud Foundation will try to work towards the prevention, treatment and eradication of vision-related illness in India and some other parts of the world.

DBT Program Support Grant
Another important development this year has been the program support grant received from DBT, India, for the five-year period, 2007-2012. This is one of its kind in India, which has helped us equip the laboratories with a FACS machine, DNA sequencer, Real Time PCR and DNA workstation. Under this program, HERF will pursue programs in stem cell biology, genetics of retinal disorders, retinopathy of prematurity (ROP), and glaucoma and functional genomics.
Oral Mucosa Project

Investigators: Geeta K Vemuganti, Virender S Sangwan, Yashoda Ghanekar, M Indumathi, Lakshmi S Madhira, Subhash Gaddipati

Severe ocular surface disease is one of the common problems faced in clinical practice. However, though LVPEI has achieved success by using autologous cultivated limbal epithelial transplantation for unilateral limbal stem cell deficiency in more than 500 patients, the problem of allogenic cultivated limbal epithelial transplantation has not yet been resolved. The reason is because of the dependency on the cadaveric or live/related limbal epithelial transplantation, and the use of systemic immunosuppression to control the rejection process that is expected in view of transplantation of immunogenic limbal tissues. Since the corneal epithelium is a stratified squamous type of epithelium, autologous epithelial cells such as oral, conjunctival, nasal, oesophageal, rectal and vaginal epithelia, which have similar morphology, could be considered as an alternative to allogenous limbal transplants.

Of these, oral mucosa has attracted the attention of researchers since it is easily available and can be harvested without invasive surgery. Work done on the oral mucosal epithelium in recent years has shown it to be a feasible alternative for allogenous limbal transplants. Oral mucosal epithelium has been cultured on the human amniotic membrane with the help of feeder cells, characterized extensively and has been used to reconstruct ocular surface in rabbits as well as in humans with chemical injury and Stevens-Johnson Syndrome. Though long term results and absence of vascularization in the transplanted mucosa is still not documented, the application of oral-derived mucosa is a very promising application, especially for young patients affected with irreversible bilateral ocular surface damage. Using the same strategy that we used to culture limbal cells in a feeder-cell free and xeno free technique, we established the technique of culturing the oral mucosa on denuded human amniotic membrane and characterized the cultured cells, in comparison with corneal and conjunctival epithelial cells.

The cells formed a monolayer within two weeks, showed morphology and phenotype similar to that of corneo-limbal and conjunctival cells.

Figure 1: Growth initiation and morphological characteristics of limbal, oral and conjunctival cultures.
A. Growth initiation from the three explant cultures
B. Confluent cultures of limbal, oral and conjunctival cells
C. Hematoxylin and eosin staining of sections of limbal, oral and conjunctival cultures
D. PAS staining of the three explant cultures. The inset in conjunctival culture shows goblet cells detected in native conjunctival tissue.

Phase 2: Pilot Clinical Study: After completion of Phase 1, a pilot clinical study was undertaken in August 2007. We have recruited 10 patients till date. They were diagnosed as severe bilateral limbal stem cell deficiency secondary to chemical burns. The oral mucosa was harvested from these patients, which showed successful formation of epithelial sheet covering more than two-thirds of the human amniotic membrane. The interim results of this study reveal symptomatic relief in five of these 10 patients. The vision was status quo in nine patients and showed improvement in one case who underwent penetrating keratoplasty (figure 2). There were no complications noted at either the donor site or on ocular surface after transplantation.

Figure 2: The clinical picture of the patient with severe bilateral ocular surface disease before (a) and after undergoing cultivated oral mucosal epithelial transplantation followed by penetrating keratoplasty (b)
Other Significant Projects

Microbial keratitis caused by Non-tuberculous Mycobacteria: In vitro antibiotic susceptibility and treatment outcome

Support: Hyderabad Eye Research Foundation

Non-tuberculous mycobacterial (NTM) keratitis represents a persistent challenge in diagnosis and treatment. A review of literature clearly suggests amikacin to be the drug of choice for NTM keratitis. Recent reports suggest the use of fourth generation quinolones in the treatment of keratitis caused by this organism while others support the use of clarithromycin. The present study was undertaken to determine the best antibiotic in the treatment of NTM keratitis based on minimum inhibitory concentrations (MIC) and to correlate treatment outcome in cases from whom these organisms were isolated. Fifteen NTM isolated from corneal scrapings of keratitis patients from January 1999 through December 2007 were studied. All the isolates were sensitive to amikacin, azithromycin and clarithromycin but the MIC values of clarithromycin were lower than amikacin and azithromycin. Eight of the ten patients were treated with amikacin; all eight patients responded well to this therapy. Two patients were treated with amikacin and oral azithromycin. These two patients responded well with the combination therapy. Five patients were lost to follow up. Topical amikacin alone or in combination with clarithromycin is the best treatment option for NTM keratitis. Fluoroquinolones including fourth generation quinolones, gatifloxacin do not seem to be useful in the treatment of this disorder.

Involvement of CYP1B1 in POAG and PACG

Investigators: Subhabrata Chakrabarti, Kollu N Rao, Inderjeet Kaur, Rajul S Parikh, Anil K Mandal, Garudadri Chandrasekhar and Ravi Thomas
Support: Department of Biotechnology grant on ‘Further molecular genetics of eye diseases’

CYP1B1 gene has been implicated as a major candidate gene in primary congenital glaucoma (PCG). Through an extensive screening of CYP1B1, it was demonstrated that the mutation spectrum in POAG and also in primary angle closure glaucoma (PACG) are quite similar to PCG. Interestingly, the glaucoma-associated CYP1B1 mutations in POAG and PACG occurred on a similar haplotype background as was seen earlier in PCG, which is indicative of their common origin. These results indicate the potential role of CYP1B1 in POAG and PACG that remains unexplored. Further details of this study are provided in Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci 2007; 48: 5439-5444.

Evaluation of LOXL1 in primary and secondary glaucomas

Investigators: Subhabrata Chakrabarti, Kollu N Rao, Inderjeet Kaur, Ravi Thomas, Jeffrey M Liebmann, Syril Doraiaij and Robert Ritch
Support: Department of Biotechnology program support grant and Daniel Hebert Glaucoma Research Fund

Variations in the LOXL1 gene have been implicated in exfoliation syndrome (XFS) and exfoliation glaucoma (XFG). In order to further establish their specificity, we aimed to determine their possible involvement in primary (POAG and PACG) and secondary glaucomas comprising pigment dispersion syndrome (PDS) and pigmentary glaucoma (PG). There was no involvement of the LOXL1 SNPs in POAG, PACG, PDS and PG. The LOXL1 risk haplotype was observed in ~50% of the normal controls indicating their specific association to XFS/XFG. The detailed results of these two studies are available in Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci 2008; 49: 2343-2347 and Mol Vis 2008; 14: 1254-1262.

Further genetics on AMD

Investigators: Inderjeet Kaur, Subhabrata Chakrabarti, Saritha Katta, Rajeev Reddy, Nazimul Hussain, Roja Narayan, Ajit B Majji, Annie Mathai
Support: Department of Biotechnology

Age-related macular degeneration (AMD) is a late-onset complex disorder with multifactorial etiologies. Genetic and environmental determinants along with their interactions play a key role in AMD pathogenesis. Earlier studies across diverse ethnic cohorts worldwide including ours, have implicated the CFH gene in AMD. We have now demonstrated the involvement of another gene ARMS2 based on genotype, haplotype and meta analysis. Jointly, the variants in ARMS2 and CFH exhibited a high population attributable risk percent that underscores their potential involvement in AMD susceptibility. Further details of this study are available in Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci 2008; 49: 1771-1776.

Molecular genetic analysis of retinal dystrophies

Investigators: Chitra Kannabiran, Subhadraka Jalali, Hardeep Singh, Maithili Dokuparthi
Support: Department of Biotechnology

Retinal dystrophies are a major cause of incurable blindness in the world. They are a group of heterogeneous disorders that involve the degeneration of retinal tissue. We have been studying retinitis pigmentosa (RP) and related disorders with a view to identifying the genes underlying these diseases. Knowledge of the causative genes should help in screening for risk prediction of relatives and for...
possible future application or development of therapies. We have screened several families with recessive RP and have identified the causative genes in a few families. In addition, we are in the process of mapping disease genes in large families, candidate gene screening for the RPE65 gene and applying microarray-based screening to gene identification.

Sreekanth and Sudhakar Ravi Stem Cell Biology Laboratory & Champalimaud Foundation

Investigators: Geeta K Vermauguri, Virender S Sangwan, Santosh G Honavar, Yashoda Ghanekar, P Naresh, K Purushottam Reddy, Shubhash Gaddipati, M Guru Prasad, Murali Mohan Sagar

Support: Department of Biotechnology, Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, Hyderabad Eye Research Foundation, Champalimaud Foundation

The team is continuing the clinical trials using cultivated limbal epithelium for severe ocular surface disease with successful outcome. The technique has been made totally xenofree with use of recombinant factors and autologus serum. To overcome the cost and side-effects of allogenic tissues for bilaterally affected patients, we initiated the use of autologus cultivated oral epithelium as a substitute for the limbal epithelium. The interim results show about 40% success with more of symptomatic relief to the patients. We identified and characterized for the first time, the presence of stromal cells in the limbus, the in-vitro and in-vivo potential of which is being evaluated. In another project the presence of cancer stem cells are being evaluated in retinoblastoma, the most common childhood eye tumor. Epigentic changes in ocular surface squamous cell carcinoma have been identified which could be a potential marker for diagnosis and prognosis.

Molecular and functional analysis of the mutated proteins associated with congenital cataracts in children

Investigators: D Balasubramanian, Venu Talla, N Srinivasan (Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore)

Support: Department of Biotechnology, Council of Scientific & Industrial Research, India

Congenital cataracts in infants and young children are genetic in origin. Two cataracts have been studied and found to be associated with mutations in the gene for human gamma C-crystallin and human gamma D-crystallin, respectively. The mutations are W157X, meaning that the last 18 amino acid residues in the proteins are deleted. We cloned and expressed the normal (wild type) and the mutant genes in the bacterial system E. coli and purified the resultant proteins, and studied their structure in the solution state. We also modeled their structure using bioinformatic methods in silico. We find that deletion of the C-terminal tail portion of 18 amino acid residues leads to the exposure of nonpolar side chains (which are buried inside the molecule in the wild type). This appears to cause self- or hetero-aggregation of the W157X mutant, suggesting a molecular basis for the cataract seen in vivo in the lens. As further proof of the idea, we tagged the relevant cDNAs of the wild type and W157X with the fluorescent tag GFP, and transfected them on to human lens cells and monitored them in situ using a confocal microscope. While the wild type molecule was seen to distribute itself uniformly across the cell, the mutant was seen to form light scattering aggregates. The detailed results are published in Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci 2008; 49: 3483-3490, and an earlier paper also in Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci 2006; 47: 5212-5217.

Functional studies on mutants of optineurin, a gene associated with certain forms of glaucoma

Investigators: D Balasubramanian, Madhavi Latha Chalasani, Ghansyham Swarup (Centre for Cellular & Molecular Biology, Hyderabad)

Support: Department of Biotechnology, University Grants Commission, India, Champalimaud Foundation, Portugal

Mutations in the coding region of the optineurin gene (OPTN) are associated with certain glaucomas. Although the function of the optineurin protein is yet to be elucidated, the most common mutation, E50K, is associated with a severe phenotype. We have explored some functional features of optineurin and its mutants. Plasmids expressing normal or wild-type (WT) and E50K, R545Q, H26D, and H486R mutant optineurin were transfected into HeLa, Cos-1, IMR32, and the rat retinal ganglion cell (RGC) line RGC-5, and their effects on cell survival monitored by morphologic observation of cells were studied. Expression of optineurin and its mutants was monitored by immunofluorescence staining of cells and by Western blotting. The E50K mutant of optineurin selectively induced the death of retinal ganglion cells but not of the other cell lines tested. Although the expression of optineurin and E50K suppressed cell death induced by tumor necrosis factor-alpha in HeLa cells, they potentiated this cell death in retinal ganglion cells. Cell death induced by the optineurin mutant in retinal ganglion cells was inhibited by the antioxidants N-acetylcysteine and Trolox. Reactive oxygen species (ROS) were produced upon expression of E50K, which were reduced by antioxidants. Co-expression of manganese superoxide dismutase with the E50K mutant abolished ROS production and inhibited cell death. We note that the E50K mutation of optineurin has acquired the ability to induce cell death selectively in retinal ganglion cells. This cell death was mediated by oxidative stress. The present findings raise the possibility of antioxidant use for delaying or controlling some forms of glaucoma. Detailed results of this work are published in Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci 2007; 48: 1607-1614; and also in Exp Eye Res 2008; 87: 1-2.
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<th>Project Investigators</th>
<th>Duration</th>
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<td>Department of Biotechnology</td>
<td>Dr Geeta K Vemuganti, Dr Prakash Babu</td>
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<td>Dr Geeta K Vemuganti, Dr Taraprasad Das</td>
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<td>Further molecular genetic studies of some eye diseases affecting the Indian</td>
<td>Department of Biotechnology</td>
<td>Dr Subhabrata Chakrabarti, Dr Chitra Kannabiran</td>
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<td>Characterization of cultivated oral mucosal epithelial cells and its application</td>
<td>Department of Biotechnology</td>
<td>Dr Geeta K Vemuganti, Dr Santosh G Honavar, Dr V S</td>
<td>2007-2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>for reconstructing the ocular surface in patients with severe ocular surface</td>
<td></td>
<td>Sangwan</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>disease</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Establishing a “Risk assessment chip” for the eye disease age-related macular</td>
<td>Department of Biotechnology</td>
<td>Dr Subhabrata Chakrabarti, Dr Inderjeet Kaur</td>
<td>2007-2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>degeneration</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programme Support on Translational Research on eye diseases</td>
<td>Department of Biotechnology</td>
<td>Project A: Dr Geeta K Vemuganti, Project B: Dr Chitra</td>
<td>2007-2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Kannabiran, Project C: Dr Inderjeet Kaur, Project D: Dr</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Subhabrata Chakrabarti, Project E: Prof D Balasubramanian</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Role of human papilloma virus, proliferative markers and p53 in the genesis &amp;</td>
<td>Indian Council of Medical Research</td>
<td>Dr Geeta K Vemuganti, Dr Chitra Kannabiran, Dr Santosh G</td>
<td>2005-2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>prognosis of ocular surface squamous neoplasia</td>
<td></td>
<td>Honavar</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proteome and genetic analysis of age-related macular degeneration (ARMD) patients</td>
<td>DST-India Japan Collaborative</td>
<td>Prof D Balasubramanian, Dr Inderjeet Kaur</td>
<td>2005-2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Scheme</td>
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<tr>
<td>Genetic evaluation of factor B and complement component C2 in the susceptibility</td>
<td>DST-India Japan Collaborative</td>
<td>Dr Inderjeet Kaur</td>
<td>2007-2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>to age related macular degeneration</td>
<td>Scheme</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Molecular studies on hereditary cataracts</td>
<td>Council of Scientific &amp; Industrial</td>
<td>Dr Chitra Kannabiran</td>
<td>2007-2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Research</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>C TRACER</td>
<td>Champalimaud Foundation</td>
<td>All at HERF, LVPEI</td>
<td>2007-2012</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DST: Department of Science and Technology, Government of India
HERF: Hyderabad Eye Research Foundation, LVPEI
Clinical research projects for the period April 1, 2007 – March 31, 2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of the Project</th>
<th>Supported by</th>
<th>Project Investigators</th>
<th>Duration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Protein Kinase C B Inhibitor - reduction in the occurrence of center- threatening</td>
<td>Eli Lily &amp; Co.</td>
<td>Dr Subhadra Jalali</td>
<td>2005 - 2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>diabetic macular edema B7A-MC-MBDL</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>A phase2/3 randomised controlled double masked multi center comparative trial in</td>
<td>Pfizer</td>
<td>Dr Subhadra Jalali</td>
<td>2006 - 2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>parallel groups to compare the safety and efficacy of intravitreous injections of</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>0.3mg pegaptanib sodium (Macugen) given as often as every 6 weeks for 2 years, to</td>
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<tr>
<td>sham injections in subjects with Diabetic Macular Edema (DME) involving the center</td>
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<td>of the macula</td>
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<tr>
<td>A study to evaluate the clinical and microbial efficacy of 0.6% ISV-403 compared to</td>
<td>Bausch &amp; Lomb</td>
<td>Dr Prashant Garg</td>
<td>March 2007-Sep</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VIGAMOX in the treatment of baterial conjunctivitis</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Micro current stimulation for retinitis pigmentosa  650 Device pilot study</td>
<td>ScyFix</td>
<td>Dr Subhadra Jalali</td>
<td>2007 - 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Posurdex study for DME</td>
<td>Allergan India Pvt. Ltd</td>
<td>Dr Ajit Babu Majji</td>
<td>2006 - 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Posurdex study for BRVO</td>
<td>Allergan India Pvt. Ltd</td>
<td>Dr Annie Mathai</td>
<td>2006 - 2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Posurdex study for intermediate uveitis</td>
<td>Allergan India Pvt. Ltd</td>
<td>Dr V S Sangwan</td>
<td>2006 - 2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Role of recombinant human epithelial growth factor in corneal epithelial defects</td>
<td>Bharath BioTech</td>
<td>Dr V S Sangwan</td>
<td>2007 - 2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comparative, randomized, open trial on the anti-inflammatory efficacy of diclofenac</td>
<td>IOL Tech Carl Zeiss MediTec</td>
<td>Dr V S Sangwan</td>
<td>2006 - 2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>released from an intraocular lens versus administration of 0.1% diclofenac eye-</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>drops in the prevention of post operative inflammatory manifestations after cataract</td>
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<tr>
<td>surgery – Ancillary study: 1 year follow-up of the safety</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>A natural history study and genetic study of macular telangectasia - the Mactel</td>
<td>MacTel Foundation</td>
<td>Dr Raja Narayanan</td>
<td>2006 - 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>study</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>LUMINATE uveitis study (LX211-01-UV)</td>
<td>LUX Biosciences</td>
<td>Dr Somasheela Murthy</td>
<td>2007 - 2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LUMINATE Active uveitis study (LX211-02-UV)</td>
<td>LUX Biosciences</td>
<td>Dr Somasheela Murthy</td>
<td>2007 - 2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LUMINATE Active uveitis study (LX211-03-UV)</td>
<td>LUX Biosciences</td>
<td>Dr Somasheela Murthy</td>
<td>2007 - 2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A multi-center, placebo-controlled, randomized, parallel-group dose-ranging study</td>
<td>LUX Biosciences</td>
<td>Dr V S Sangwan</td>
<td>2008 - 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>to assess the efficacy and safety of LX201 for prevention of corneal allograft</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>rejection episodes and graft failure following penetrating keratoplasty with</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>LX201 implantation in subjects who are at increased immunological risk.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>A multi-center, placebo-controlled, randomized, parallel-group dose-ranging study</td>
<td>LUX Biosciences</td>
<td>Dr V S Sangwan</td>
<td>2008 - 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>to assess the efficacy and safety of LX201 for prevention of corneal allograft</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>rejection episodes and graft failure following penetrating keratoplasty with</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LX201 implantation in subjects who have experienced one or more rejection episodes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>for penetrating keratoplasty</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Comparative study of the safety and effectiveness between trabeculectomy with</td>
<td>OculusGen</td>
<td>Dr A K Mandal</td>
<td>2007 - 2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>trabeculectomy with OculusGenTM Collagen Matrix Implant</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comparative study of the safety and effectiveness between OculusGenTM Collagen</td>
<td>OculusGen</td>
<td>Dr G Chandrasekar</td>
<td>2007 - 2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matrix Implant and Mitomycin -C in Glaucoma Filtering Surgery</td>
<td></td>
<td>Dr BL Harsha</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Operations Research**
*International Centre for Advancement of Rural Eye care (ICARE)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of the Project</th>
<th>Principal Investigator</th>
<th>Supported by</th>
<th>Duration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Capacity building program for the management of diabetic retinopathy in the state of Andhra Pradesh</td>
<td>Dr Taraprasad Das Dr Annie Mathai</td>
<td>Lions Club International Foundation</td>
<td>August 2005 to July 2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comprehensive Eye Health program in Prakasam district</td>
<td>ICARE team</td>
<td>Ravi Brothers, USA</td>
<td>August 2005 to July 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diabetes prevention program through Child to Family Communication for change in lifestyle and health promotion in Prakasam district</td>
<td>Ms S Sheeladevi</td>
<td>World Diabetes Foundation</td>
<td>August 2006 to March 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Providing Eyecare through Empowered People (PEEP)</td>
<td>Mr Shubhrakanti Bhattacharya</td>
<td>ORBIS International, India</td>
<td>June 2004 to December 2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child to Child and Child to Family communication as a strategy to improve awareness and uptake of eye care services</td>
<td>Mr D Kiran</td>
<td>Vision CRC, Australia</td>
<td>April 2006 to December 2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vision Centres for offering primary eye care services in rural Andhra Pradesh</td>
<td>Mr Kovai Vilas</td>
<td>Lavelle Fund for the Blind, USA, and Latter-day Saint Charities</td>
<td>July 2003 to December 2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Impact Assessment Study after refraction error correction among schoolgoing children</td>
<td>Mr Jachin D Williams</td>
<td>Vision CRC, Australia</td>
<td>September 2005 to December 2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sight for Kids</td>
<td>Mr Jachin D Williams</td>
<td>Lions Club International Foundation</td>
<td>November 2005 to March 2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rapid assessment of cataract surgical services in Service Centre areas</td>
<td>Mr M Srinivas</td>
<td>LVPEI</td>
<td>At regular intervals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pediatric Ophthalmology Learning and Training Centre (POLTC)</td>
<td>Dr Ramesh Murthy</td>
<td>ORBIS International, India</td>
<td>October 2006 to March 2010</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Research scholars at the Prof Brien Holden Eye Research Centre**

**Kallam Anji Reddy Molecular Genetics Laboratory**

**Sudhakar & Sreekanth Ravi Stem Cell Biology Laboratory**
K Purushotham Reddy, Naresh Polisetti, Murali Mohan Sagar B, Subhash Gaddipati

**Biochemistry Laboratory**
Talla Venu, Madhavi Latha Chalasani, Venkata Pulla Rao

**Ophthalmic Pathology Laboratory**
M Guru Prasad

**Students who completed their PhDs during this period**
Afia Sultana, University of Hyderabad
Publications


23. Jain V, Garg P, Sharma S. Microbial scleritis: Experience from a developing country. Eye 2008(Jan); Epub ahead of print


29. Khanna R. What do you mean by 'Eye Care Management'? IAPB News edition no 54, January 2008, 7-8


Presentations

In addition to the following, our faculty participated in other international/national scientific and non-scientific forums during the year

D Balasubramanian
International President
Meeting of various National Academies of Sciences and International Human Rights Group, Indian Academy of Science, Colombo, Sri Lanka. April 4-5, 2007
Meeting of postgraduate committee of Vision CRC, UNSW School of Optometry, Sydney, Australia. April 9-14, 2007
Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO) annual meeting and meeting at National Eye Institute, Fort Lauderdale, Bethesda, Maryland, USA. May 6-15, 2007

Secretary General
Third World Academy of Sciences Officers Meeting, Trieste, Italy. May 16-20, 2007

Panelist
Meeting with research group of Dr Makato Tamai in the area of gene delivery in retinitis pigmentosa, Sendai, Japan.
June 5, 2007
Panel discussion and networking in the region in the area of stem cells, 'Nature' magazine, Tokyo, Japan. June 6, 2007

President, Indian Academy of Sciences
Launching ceremony of 'Mauritius Academy of Science and Technology' (MAST), Mauritius. July 20-21, 2007

Secretary General

Guest lecture
University of Delaware, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD, USA. October 11-14, 2007

Invited speaker
Seminar, University of Medicine and Dentists at New Jersey, New Brunswick, NJ, USA. October 15, 2007
Seminar, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, USA. October 16, 2007

Co-Chair
National Institutes of Health (NIH) and Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO) meeting of the US-India Eye Research Joint Working Group, Bethesda, MD, USA. October 17-19, 2007

Secretary General
18th General meeting, Third World Academy of Sciences, Trieste, Italy. November 11-14, 2007

Member, IBSP

Member
Post Graduate Committee meeting, Vision CRC, Sydney, Australia. March 24-28, 2008

National Chairman
Task Force Meeting, Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Government of India, New Delhi. April 17-18, 2007
Executive Committee meeting, Society of Biological Chemists of India, Bangalore. April 21, 2007

Member
Governing Council Meeting of CMC - DBT for Stem Cell Research at DBT, New Delhi. May 21, 2007

Member, Scientific Advisory Committee
Scientific Advisory Committee Meeting, Advanced Centre for Treatment, Research and Education in Cancer (ACTREC), Tata Memorial Centre, Mumbai. May 30, 2007

Chairman
Research Advisory Committee meeting, Manovikas Biomedical Research & Diagnostic Centre, Manovikas Kendra, Kolkata. July 5, 2007

President
18th Mid-year meeting, Indian Academy of Sciences, Bangalore. July 13-14, 2007

Chairman

Member
Research Area Panels Scientific Advisory Committee Meeting, Centre for DNA Fingerprinting and Diagnostics (CDFD), Hyderabad. July 24-25, 2007

Chairman
39th Research Council Meeting, National Chemical Laboratory, Pune. July 31 – August 1, 2007
Task Force Meeting on Stem Cell Research and Regenerative Medicine, Department of Biotechnology, Government of India, New Delhi. August 13-14, 2007

Member
Research Advisory Committee Meeting, Blue Peter Research Centre, Hyderabad. August 16, 2007

Invited speaker
5th Training program, Department of Science & Technology, National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bangalore. August 23, 2007
Special lecture, Indian Institute of Science Education & Research, Pune. August 28-29, 2007
International Symposium on 'Light and Life', University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad. August 31, 2007

Co-Chairman
Meeting of the Joint Working Group, US-India Collaborative Program on Eye Research between National Institutes of Health (USA) and Department of Biotechnology (India), Government of India, New Delhi. September 10, 2007

Invited speaker
Task Force Meeting on Human Genetics and Genome Analysis, Department of Biotechnology, Government of India, New Delhi. September 17, 2007
V Lakshmi Narayana Centenary Oration Lecture, Centenary Oration Lecture, Birla Institute of Technology and Science, Pilani. September 18, 2007

Chairman
Standing Committee meeting of Emeritus Scientists and one-time grant research committee at Human Resource Development Group, Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, New Delhi. October 6, 2007
73rd Annual meeting, Indian Academy of Sciences, Thiruvananthapuram. November 1-4, 2007
Institutional Biosafety Committee meeting, Blue Peter Research Centre, Charlapalli, Hyderabad. November 30, 2007
Council meeting, Indian Academy of Sciences, Bangalore. December 1-2, 2007
7th Meeting of Task Force on Stem Cell Research and Regenerative Medicine, Department of Biotechnology, Government of India, New Delhi. December 4-5, 2007
6th Program Advisory Committee Meeting, Centre for Excellence in Biology, Department of Biotechnology, Government of India, New Delhi. December 10, 2007

Session Chair
International conference on Bioinformatics and Drug Discovery, University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad. December 21, 2007
Plenary lecture
95th session of Indian Science Congress, Andhra University, Visakhapatnam. January 7, 2008

Invited speaker

Chairman – Evaluation Committee
DST Evaluation Committee meeting for selecting agencies/NGOs/State S & T Councils, Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology, Hyderabad. January 17, 2008

Chairman
Meeting, Institute of Life Sciences, Hyderabad. March 4, 2008
New Millennium Indian Technology Leadership Initiative (NMITLI) meeting, Bangalore. March 11, 2008
'Year of Planet Earth', National seminar on 'Living organisms in Changing Environment on Artificial life', Centre for Plant Molecular Biology, Osmania University, Hyderabad. March 15, 2008
National Chemical Laboratory (NCL) Research Foundation meeting, Pune. March 20, 2008

Soumyava Basu
Free paper presentation
Eastern India Zonal Ophthalmic Congress, Dhanbad, Bihar. November 3-4, 2007
XII Retina Congress, LVPEI, Bhubaneswar. December 7-9, 2007

Padhmavathi Bhashyarangan
National workshop, Thakur Hari Prasad Institute of Research and Rehabilitation for the Mentally Handicapped, Hyderabad. April 7, 2007
17th Low Vision Awareness Program, LVPEI, Hyderabad. April 27-29, 2007
18th Low Vision Awareness Program, LVPEI, Hyderabad. September 28-30, 2007
S Bhattacharya
National
Invited speaker/ Poster presentation
Poster presentation

Subhabrata Chakrabarti
International
Invited speaker/Co-Chairman, Poster committee/Poster presentation

Invited speaker
Hamilton Glaucoma Center, University of California, San Diego, USA. March 18, 2008
Shiley Eye Institute, University of California, San Diego, USA. March 20, 2008
Jules Stein Eye Institute, University of California, Los Angeles, USA. March 21, 2008

National
Plenary lecture

Organizer/Speaker
First strategic meeting of Indo-Australian Biotechnology Fund, Hyderabad. October 29-31, 2007

Invited speaker
Annual conference of Indian Society of Human Genetics, Andhra University, Visakhapatnam. February 11-13, 2008

Participant
Face to Face – Young Scientists meeting with Minister of Science & Technology, Indian National Science Academy, New Delhi. March 15, 2008

Beula Christy
National
Faculty
17th Low Vision Awareness Program, LVPEI, Hyderabad. April 27-29, 2007
18th Low Vision Awareness Program, LVPEI, Hyderabad. September 28-30, 2007

Guest lecture
Family Training program on Sensory Impairment, National Institute for the Mentally Handicapped, Hyderabad. November 17, 2007

Faculty

S Sheela Devi
National
Invited faculty
Training program for primary health doctors and NGOs on diabetes awareness at Prakasam district, Andhra Pradesh. August 31, 2007
Poster presentation

Taraprasad Das
International
Poster presentation
Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO) annual meeting, Fort Lauderdale, Bethesda, Maryland, USA. May 6-10, 2007
Instructor/Poster presentation
Instruction Course on Cluster endophthalmitis, American Academy of Ophthalmology annual meeting, New Orleans, Louisiana, USA. November 10-13, 2007

National
Invited speaker
Silver Jubilee celebration and CME program, Pondicherry Ophthalmologists Association, Pondicherry. April 8, 2007
CME program, Narayana Nethralaya, Bangalore. April 14, 2007
CME program, Aravinda Vitreoretinal Institute, Vijayawada. May 27, 2007

Faculty
‘Paradigm shift in management of age related macular degeneration and current management of post-operative endophthalmitis’, XII Retina Congress, LVPEI, Bhubaneswar. December 7-9, 2007

Invited speaker/Free paper presentation

Invited analyst
CBR evaluation, Pune school for the Blind and Aged, Pune. December 20-22, 2007

S Sheela Devi
National
Invited faculty
Training program for primary health doctors and NGOs on diabetes awareness at Prakasam district, Andhra Pradesh. August 31, 2007
Poster presentation

Faculty
NGOs training program, World Diabetes Foundation project, Markapuram, Andhra Pradesh. March 6, 2008
Primary health center medical practitioners training program, World Diabetes Foundation project, Markapuram, Andhra Pradesh. March 25, 2008
**Merle Fernandes**  
**International Invited speaker/Chief instructor**  
XXV Congress of European Society of Cataract & Refractive Surgeons, Stockholm, Sweden. September 8-12, 2007  
**Video presentation**  
**National Invited speaker**  
Eye banking and cornea meeting, Mohsin Eye Bank, Visakhapatnam. August 26, 2007  
Eye banking and cornea meeting, Jorhat Ophthalmic Association, Jorhat. September 1, 2007  
**Organising secretary/Faculty**  
Cataract and Cornea Seminar, LVPEI, Visakhapatnam. November 3-4, 2007  
**Faculty/Session moderator**  
**Invited speaker**  
Vidharbha Ophthalmic Society meeting, Nagpur. March 30, 2008  
**Prashant Garg**  
**International Invited participant**  
Meeting of postgraduate committee of Vision CRC, UNSW School of Optometry, Sydney, Australia. April 9-14, 2007  
**Invited speaker**  
**National Invited speaker**  
Logical approach to diagnosis and management of microbial keratitis, Guwahati Ophthalmology Society meeting, Guwahati. April 29, 2007  
**Invited participant**  
**Usha Gopinathan**  
**International Invited faculty**  
Community Eye Health Program, The London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, London. October 24-26, 2007  
Asia Cornea Society Scientific Meeting, Shangri-La’s Rasa Sentosa, Singapore. March 13-14, 2008  
**National Invited faculty**  
DC-10 Program, ORBIS International, Mumbai, India. April 1, 2007  
**Co-Chairperson/Faculty**  
**Invited speaker**  
**Chairperson**  
**Invited faculty**  
Workshop for Regional Institute of Ophthalmology and Eye Banks of India, Sankara Nethralaya, Chennai. February 20, 2008  
**Vijaya K Gothwal**  
**National Faculty**  
17th Low Vision Awareness Program, LVPEI, Hyderabad. April 27-29, 2007  
18th Low Vision Awareness Program, LVPEI, Hyderabad. September 28-30, 2007  
**Invited faculty**  
Workshop, Centre for Research and Education (CREED), ICARE – LVPEI, Hyderabad. January 4-5, 2008  
**Roshni Gupta**  
**International Video presentation**  
**Faculty/Paper presentation**  
Cutting Edge 2007, Joint meeting of Oculoplastics Association of India (OPAI) and Asia Pacific Society of Ophthalmic Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery (APSOPRS), Hyderabad. December 14-16, 2007  
**National Discussant**  
Cataract and Cornea Seminar, LVPEI, Visakhapatnam. November 3-4, 2007  
**Faculty**  
Symposium on radio frequency in oculoplasty, LVPEI and Ellman International, Hyderabad. December 12, 2007  
**Invited speaker**  
Regional Eye Hospital, Visakhapatnam. December 27, 2007  
**Session moderator/Paper discussant**  
**Invited speaker**  
Santosh G Honavar
International

Invited faculty/Chairman
Cutting Edge 2007, Joint meeting of Oculoplastics Association of India (OPAI) and Asia Pacific Society of Ophthalmic Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery (APSOPRS), Hyderabad. December 14-16, 2007

National
Invited faculty
Delhi Ophthalmic Association meeting. April 2007
Ophthalmic Society of West Bengal meeting. May 2007
Indian Intraocular Implant Refractive Society (IIIRS) meeting, Chennai. July 2007
Pediatric Ophthalmology Symposium, Ganapati Nethralaya, Jalna. October 2007
Gujarat Ophthalmological Society Meeting, Mehsana. October 2007
Maharashtra Ophthalmological Society Meeting, Sholapur. October 2007
Pediatric Ophthalmology Symposium, Bhubaneswar. October 2007
Karnataka Ophthalmological Society meeting, Bangalore. November 3-4, 2007
All Assam Ophthalmic Society meeting. December 2007
Meeting of the Karnataka Ophthalmological Society, Belgaum. January 2008

Invited faculty/Chairman

Invited faculty

Invited faculty/Chairman
Hands-on course on Visual Electrophysiology, pre 45th ISCEV Annual symposium training program, LVPEI, Hyderabad. August 24-25, 2007

Organiying Chairperson/Invited speaker/
Poster presentation

Invited speaker

National
Invited speaker
Annual meeting, Delhi Ophthalmological Society, New Delhi. April 1-4, 2007
National Workshop by Pediatricians on ventilation of newborns, Hyderabad. April 7, 2007
26th CME for postgraduates, Sarojini Devi Eye Hospital, Hyderabad. July 28, 2007
CME on Emergency Care in Trauma, Military Hospital, Secunderabad. August 11-12, 2007

Invited speaker/Co-Convenor

Invited speaker
12th RK Seth Memorial Symposium on Pediatric Ophthalmology, Venu Eye Institute, New Delhi. October 2, 2007

Faculty

Convenor/ Faculty

Faculty/Convenor of session

Invited speaker
ROP Update, Shroff Eye Charitable Hospital, New Delhi. January 12, 2008

Korani Jyothi
National Faculty
Tribal Eye Health projects coordinators workshop, ICARE – LVPEI, Kubeer, Adilabad district, Andhra Pradesh.
March 28, 2008

Chitra Kannabiran
International Invited speaker
Seminar at Duke University Medical Center, Durham, NC, USA. November 7, 2007
Ophthalmic Genetics Study Club, New Orleans, Louisiana, USA. November 9, 2007
Seminar at Tulane University Health Sciences Center, New Orleans, Louisiana, USA. November 12, 2007
Symposium on Diabetic Retinopathy, American Academy of Ophthalmology annual meeting, New Orleans, Louisiana, USA. November 10-13, 2007

National Organizer

Invited participant

Presentation
Meeting of Task Force on Human Genetics and Genomics, Department of Biotechnology, Government of India, New Delhi. September 18, 2007

Participant
Meeting of Core Group of Eye Genetic Analysis Consortium of India (EGACI), LVPEI, Hyderabad. September 24, 2007

Coordinator
Panel on Impact of Healthcare Technologies on Women, 2nd National Bioethics Conference, National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS), Bangalore. December 6-8, 2007

Faculty
First Champalimaud Seminar, LVPEI, Hyderabad. January 30, 2008
Plenary session, Annual meeting of Indian Society of Human Genetics, Andhra University, Visakhapatnam. February 11-13, 2008

Inderjeet Kaur
National Paper presentation

Poster presentation
International symposium on ‘Dissecting the Role of Genes and Environment in Complex Diseases’, Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology, Hyderabad. December 6-8, 2007

Paper presentation

Ramesh Kekunnaya
International Volunteer faculty
ORBIS Flying Eye Hospital Program, Da Nang, Vietnam.
March 17 – April 8, 2008

National Invited speaker
CME on Strabismus, Orissa State Ophthalmologists Society, Chilika, Orissa. September 9, 2007

Invited faculty

Organizing secretary/Faculty

Faculty
ORBIS-LVPEI Pediatric Ophthalmology Learning and Training Centre (POLTC) hospital based program on pediatric ophthalmology, ORBIS International - LVPEI, Hyderabad. December 3-7, 2007

Free paper presentation
Synergy, Strabismus Society of India 25th annual meeting, Chennai. December 8-9, 2007

Discussant

Invited faculty

Rohit Khanna
International Participated
Collaboration meeting between Tianjin Eye Hospital and LVPEI, Tianjin, China. April 14-22, 2007

Invited speaker
Meeting on 5-year National Strategic Plan for Prevention of Blindness Prevention in Rwanda, Right to Sight, Kigali, Rwanda. March 10-12, 2008

National Poster presentation

Invited speaker
CME program for postgraduate students, Sarojini Devi Eye Hospital, Hyderabad. September 7, 2007

Faculty/Presentations
Cataract and Cornea Seminar, LVPEI, Visakhapatnam. November 3-4, 2007
Free paper/Poster presentations

Keynote speaker
Childhood blindness awareness workshop, Bellary District Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Bellary, Karnataka. December 9, 2007

Organiser/Invited speaker

Poster presentations

Invited speaker

Pravin V Krishna
International
Paper presentations
XIV meeting, International Society for Contact Lens Research, Whistler, BC, Canada. August 12-17, 2007

Invited speaker
Bascom Palmer Eye Institute, Miami, Florida, USA. January 25, 2008

National
invited faculty
Cornea meeting, Baroda Ophthalmology Association, Baroda. June 2-3, 2007

Presentations/Co-instructor

S Krishnaiah
National
Participant

Meena Lakshmipathy
National
Faculty
Cataract and Cornea Seminar, LVPEI, Visakhapatnam. November 3-4, 2007

Ajit Babu Majji
International
Free paper presentation
Second surgical intervention for endophthalmitis after initial vitrectomy or vitreous biopsy, 7th Euretina Congress, Monte Carlo, Italy. May 17-20, 2007

National
Keynote address
Changing paradigms in the management of retinal detachment, Delhi Ophthalmic Society, New Delhi. April 7-8, 2007

Invited speaker

National Symposium on diabetic retinopathy, Kochi. September 8-9, 2007

Organiser/Invited Speaker

Instructor

Invited faculty

Invited speaker
Gujarat Ophthalmic Society meeting, Mehsana. October 13-14, 2007
Karnataka Ophthalmic Society Meeting, Bangalore. November 3-4, 2007

External examiner
Fellowship examinations in Vitreous and Retina, Rajiv Gandhi Health University, Bangalore. January 17, 2008

Co-instructor/Free paper/Session co-chairman/
Session convener

FRCS host examiner
L V Prasad Eye Institute, Hyderabad. February 11-14, 2008

Guest faculty

Anil K Mandal
International
Chairperson of a symposium/Invited faculty/
Poster presentation

Invited speaker
Tulane University Medical Center, New Orleans, USA. November 9, 2007

Senior instructor, Poster & video presentation

National
Colloquium lecture
Saha Institute of Nuclear Physics Center, Kolkata. May 8, 2007

Invited speaker
Bose Institute, Kolkata. May 11, 2007

Invited faculty

Faculty
Invited speaker
Glucoma Symposium, Lions Club of Hyderabad, Sadhuram Eye Hospital, Hyderabad. November 4, 2007
Major S C Dutta Memorial Oration, XXXVIII annual conference, Ophthalmological Society of West Bengal, Malda. November 24-25, 2007

Invited faculty

Faculty/Instructor/Free paper presentation

Faculty/Video presentation
Glucoma Update, LV Prasad Eye Institute in satellite connection with LVPEI Bhubaneshwar and LVPEI, GMR Varalakshmi Campus, Visakhapatnam. March 8-9, 2008

Invited faculty/Keynote address

Manjula Marella
National
Faculty
17th Low Vision Awareness Program, LVPEI, Hyderabad. April 27-29, 2007
18th Low Vision Awareness Program, LVPEI, Hyderabad. September 28-30, 2007

Srinivas Marmamula
National
Poster Presentation

Invited speaker
33rd All India Optometry conference, Goa. October 3-5, 2007

Observer
Tele-ophthalmology and their primary eye care facility, Sankara Nethralaya, Chennai & Aravind Eye Care Hospitals, Madurai. November 14-17, 2007

Annie Mathai
International
Poster presentation

Invited speaker
Symposium on Diabetic Retinopathy screening, ORBIS China, Shanghai, China. February 14-15, 2008

National
Free paper presentation

Invited faculty
Uveitis Society of India annual meeting, Guwahati. December 1-2, 2007

Hema Mohan
National
Faculty
17th Low Vision Awareness Program, LVPEI, Hyderabad. April 27 – 29, 2007

Ramesh Murthy
International
Poster presentation

Coordinator/Convenor

Chairperson/Invited speaker
International symposium on retinoblastoma and pediatric ophthalmic tumours, National University Hospital, Singapore. December 21-22, 2007

Srinivas Marmamula
National
Poster Presentation

Invited speaker
33rd All India Optometry conference, Goa. October 3-5, 2007

Observer
Tele-ophthalmology and their primary eye care facility, Sankara Nethralaya, Chennai & Aravind Eye Care Hospitals, Madurai. November 14-17, 2007

Annie Mathai
International
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Symposium on Diabetic Retinopathy screening, ORBIS China, Shanghai, China. February 14-15, 2008

National
Free paper presentation

Invited faculty
Uveitis Society of India annual meeting, Guwahati. December 1-2, 2007

Invited speaker
Synergy, Strabismus Society of India 25th annual meeting, Chennai. December 8-9, 2007

Faculty
Symposium on radio frequency in oculoplasty, LVPEI and Ellman International, Hyderabad. December 12, 2007

Guest lecture
Minto Government Hospital, Bangalore. December 24, 2007

Invited speaker/Instructor/Paper presentation
Invited speaker/Moderator

Invited speaker

Somasheila Murthy
International
Guest faculty
ORBIS hospital based training program, Awassaa, Ethiopia. April 28 – May 6, 2007

Participated
Investigators’ meeting for LUX BIO Sciences LUCIDA study: LX 201-01 and LX 2020-02, LUX BIO Sciences, Frankfurt, Germany. May 15-16, 2007

Volunteer faculty

Invited speaker/Faculty

National
Faculty
Investigators’ meeting for the LUX BIO Sciences LUMINATE STUDY: LX 211-01, 02, 03, LUX BIO Sciences, Hyderabad. June 16-17, 2007

Chief instructor

Invited speaker/Chairperson for session/Judge for posters
Uveitis Society of India annual meeting, Guwahati. December 1-2, 2007

Faculty
39th Indian Contact Lens Education Program, LVPEI, Hyderabad. December 6, 2007

Organizer/Faculty
2nd annual meeting of Indian Association of Ophthalmic Pathology, LVPEI, Hyderabad. December 15, 2007

Instructor/Free paper/Discussant

Participant

Invited speaker

Milind N Naik
International
Invited faculty
18th anniversary of international Singapore National Eye Centre, Singapore. March 14-17, 2008

Cutting Edge 2007, Joint meeting of Oculoplastics Association of India (OPAI) and Asia Pacific Society of Ophthalmic Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery (APSOPRS), Hyderabad. December 14-16, 2007

National
Invited faculty
Annual Meeting of the Association of Plastic Surgeons of India (APSI), Command Hospital, Pune, December 1, 2007


International Oculoplasty Update, Rajan Eye Care Hospital, Chennai. March 1-2, 2008


Raja Narayanan
International
Invited speaker

Poster presentations

American Society of Retina Specialists meeting, California, USA. December 1-5, 2007

National
Instructor

Rajul Parikh
International
Invited speaker/Moderator

National
Invited speaker


Invited speaker/poster presentation

Avinash Pathengay
International
Invited speaker/Paper & Poster presentation
IX International Ocular and Inflammation Society, Paris, France. September 17-20, 2007

Member

National
Faculty
Cataract and Cornea Seminar, LVPEI, Visakhapatnam. November 3-4, 2007

XII Retina Congress, LVPEI, Bhubaneswar. December 7-9, 2007
Giridhar Pyda
National
Poster presentation

Coordinator
ORBIS-LVPEI Pediatric Ophthalmology Learning and Training Centre (POLTC) hospital based program on pediatric ophthalmology, ORBIS International - LVPEI, Hyderabad. December 3-7, 2007

Usha Raman
International
Faculty
Postgraduate Skills Workshop, Vision CRC, University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia. March 25 – April 4, 2008

National
Discussant

Panelist
Conference on Academic Publishing in English, English and Foreign Languages University, Hyderabad. December 4, 2007

Panelist/Paper presenter
2nd National Bioethics Conference, National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS), Bangalore. December 6-8, 2007

Faculty

Panelist
UNESCO Consultation on Model Journalism Curricula for Developing Countries, UNESCO and University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad. March 20, 2008

Gullapalli N Rao
International
Participated

Collaboration meeting
Between Tianjin Eye Hospital (a Centre of Excellence) and LVPEI. Areas of collaboration include clinical care, training, exchange of staff, research and blindness prevention, Tianjin, China. April 14-22, 2007


Vision Committee of Church of Latter-day Saint Charities. Spoke on ‘LVPEI Infrastructure Model’, Latter-day Saint Charities, Salt Lake City, USA. May 22, 2007

Keynote speaker

Invited speaker

‘Delivery of Eye Care in Developing Countries – Role of Research’, Lecture at University of Udine, Trieste, Italy. October 2, 2007

Keynote lecture
‘Delivery of Eye Care in Developing Countries – Role of Research’, Annual meeting of European Association for Vision and Research, Portoroz, Slovenia. October 3-6, 2007


Session : Legal Requirements and Technical Standards for Eye Banking
Topic : Corneal Transplantation Teams – Development
Topic : Corneal Transplantation Services in Bangladesh

Invited speaker
Debate on ‘What is the Priority, Aid or Development?’, International Forum session, American Academy of Ophthalmology annual meeting, New Orleans, Louisiana, USA. November 10-13, 2007

National
Invited speaker


Faculty

Guest of Honour

Spoke on: Indian Ophthalmology: Pathways to Global Leadership

Session: Academia Ophthalmologica Internationalis
Spoke on: ‘Eye Care to the Underserved Populations
Lecture in Honour of Prof P K Khosla, New Delhi. March 9, 2008
Spoke on: ‘Diabetic retinopathy: A Model for Control

Suryasnata Rath
National
Faculty/Poster presentation

Instructor/Free paper, video & poster presentation
Cutting Edge 2007, Joint meeting of Oculoplastics Association of India (OPAI) and Asia Pacific Society of Ophthalmic Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery (APSOPRS), Hyderabad. December 14-16, 2007
Varsha Rathi
National
Invited speaker
26th CME program, Sarojini Devi Eye Hospital, Hyderabad. July 16-31, 2007
Vidarbha Ophthalmological Society meeting, Akola, Maharashtra. November 3-4, 2007

G Ashok Kumar Reddy
National
Free paper presentation
MICROCON 2007, 31st National Congress of Indian Association of Medical Microbiologists (IAMM), Kasturba Medical College, Mangalore. November 16-18, 2007

Rajeev K Reddy
National
Invited speaker
Dr Ravi Kumar Reddy Endowment Lecture, Sarojini Devi Eye Hospital, Hyderabad. September 27, 2007

Jayanthi Sagar
National
Paper presentation
Co-ordinator/Faculty
Training program for primary health doctors and NGOs on diabetes awareness, Prakasham district, Andhra Pradesh. August 31, 2007
Project coordinator
Refresher training program, Johnson & Johnson Company and ICARE – LVPEI, Hyderabad. February 5, 2008
NGOs training program, World Diabetes Foundation project, Markapuram, Andhra Pradesh. March 6, 2008
Primary health center medical practitioners training program, World Diabetes Foundation project, Markapuram, Andhra Pradesh. March 25, 2008

Virender S Sangwan
International
Faculty
Postgraduate review week for Vision CRC, Sydney, Australia. April 4, 2007
Investigators’ meeting for LUX BIO Sciences LUCIDA study: LX 201-01 and LX 2020-02, LUX BIO Sciences, Frankfurt, Germany. May 15-16, 2007
Invited speaker
Invited faculty/Secretary, Asia Cornea Society

National
Faculty
Investigators’ meeting for the LUX BIO Sciences LUMINATE STUDY: LX 211-01, 02, 03, LUX BIO Sciences, LVPEI, Hyderabad. June 16-17, 2007

Invited faculty
Ocular Trauma Society meeting, New Delhi. September 1, 2007
International Ocular Surface Society meeting, Aravind Eye Hospital, Pondicherry. October 6-7, 2007
Cataract and Cornea Seminar, LVPEI, Visakhapatnam. November 3-4, 2007
Uveitis Society of India annual meeting, Guwahati. December 1-2, 2007

Faculty/Free paper presentation

Invited faculty
2nd Founder’s day, Advanced Eye Centre, Chandigarh. March 17-19, 2008
Vidharbha Ophthalmic Society meeting, Nagpur. March 29, 2008

G Chandra Sekhar
International
Participated
Invited speaker
‘L V Prasad Eye Institute, 20 years of Eye care with Excellence and Equity’, Carl Zeiss Meditec, Dublin, California, USA. September 12, 2007

Chairperson, OEU India Board
Annual Strategic Planning Sessions, Operation Eyesight Universal, Calgary, Canada. September 15-16, 2007

Attended
International Agency for Prevention of Blindness Council of Members meeting, Vancouver, Canada. September 20-21, 2007

Invited participant

Invited speaker
10th meeting of Glaucoma Research Society, Queenstown, New Zealand. February 20-23, 2008
National
Guest lecture
Indian Medical Association, Hyderabad. May 27, 2007

Faculty/Video presentation

Invited speaker/Panelist
‘Role of newer technology in patient management’, Panel discussion on Medical management of glaucoma and angle closure disease, Glaucoma Society of India XVII annual meeting, Kolkata. December 6-9, 2007

Chair the session/Invited speaker

Chair, Board meeting/Participant

Organizer
First Patient Support Group meeting, LVPEI, Hyderabad. March 6, 2008

Faculty
Glaucoma Update, LVPEI, Visakhapatnam, in satellite connection with LVPEI Bhubaneswar and LVPEI, Hyderabad. March 8-9, 2008

Chairperson
Andhra Pradesh State Ophthalmological Society management committee meeting as President of APSOS, Vijayawada. March 16, 2008

Invited speaker

Sriisha Senthil
National
Invited speaker
Glaucoma Symposium, Sadhuram Lions Eye Hospital. November 4, 2007

Invited speaker/Video presentation
Glaucoma Update, LVPEI, Visakhapatnam. March 8-9, 2008

Savitri Sharma
International
Faculty

National
Invited speaker
Meeting of Editors of Biomedical Journals, PD Hinduja Hospital, Mumbai. April 1, 2007

Silver Jubilee celebration and CME programs, Pondicherry Ophthalmologists’ Association, Pondicherry. April 8, 2007


Moderator/Invited speaker
35th Annual conference, Indian Association of Pathologists and Microbiologists (Orissa chapter), Bhubaneswar. September 8, 2007

Convener/Invited speaker

Panel discussion
MICROCON 2007, 31st National Congress of Indian Association of Medical Microbiologists (IAMM), Kasturba Medical College, Mangalore. November 16-18, 2007

Faculty
XII Retina Congress, LVPEI, Bhubaneswar. December 7-9, 2007

Rishi Swarup
International
Invited speaker/Instructor/Poster & Video presentation

National
Free paper presentation/Ophthalmic Quizmaster
Nethra Darshan 2007, 31st annual meeting of Andhra Pradesh Ophthalmic Society (APOS) and 2nd meeting of Ophthalmic Association of South Indian States (OASIS), Tirupati. September 28-30, 2007

Video presentations

Invited speaker

PVKS Varma
National
Chairperson/Faculty
Glaucoma Update, LVPEI, Visakhapatnam. March 8-9, 2008

Geeta K Vemuganti
International
Invited speaker
Continuous Medical Education Program, Hospital Kuala Lumpur, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. June 11-13, 2007

Institute for Medical Research, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. June 12, 2007

Indo-Australian workshop at the International Society of Stem Cell Research (ISSCR), Centre for Eye Research Australia, Melbourne, Australia. June 15, 2007

Posters presentations
5th International Society for Stem Cell Research annual meeting, Cairns, Australia. June 17, 2007

Invited speaker

Indo-JSPS-CDB Joint Meeting, RIKEN CDB, Kobe, Japan. October 24, 2007

Invited faculty
Invited speaker
National Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Washington DC, USA. November 16, 2007

National
Invited speaker
Discussion on draft cGMP document, National Centre for Biological Sciences, Bangalore. July 16, 2007
26th CME program, Sarojini Devi Eye Hospital, Hyderabad. July 20, 2007
Talk on Institution Review Board, cGMP workshop, LVPEI, Hyderabad. August 19, 2007
25th Annual Conference, Indian Association of Pathologists and Microbiologists, Department of Pathology, Kakatiya Medical College, Warangal. September 8, 2007
National seminar on Stem Cells, Department of Science and Technology, Government of Rajasthan, Jaipur. October 11, 2007
Advanced training in genetic diagnosis and counseling, Institute of Genetics and Hospital for Genetic Diseases, Osmania University, Hyderabad. October 16, 2007
Conference on stem cell tissue engineering and regenerative medicine, Frontier Lifeline & Dr K M Cherian Heart Foundation, Chennai. December 2, 2007

Keynote speaker
2nd Annual day, Helen Keller Research Centre, Loyola College, Chennai. December 2, 2007

Invited speaker/Faculty & coordinator for workshop
2nd National Bioethics Conference, National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS), Bangalore. December 6, 2007

Invited speaker
‘Advanced Training in Genetic Diagnosis and Counseling’, 2nd Hands-on-program, Institute of Genetics and Hospital for Genetic Diseases, Osmania University, Hyderabad. January 24, 2008
First Prof S J Nagalotimath Memorial CME, 13th International CME in Pathology, Indian College of Pathologists and Karnataka College – Indian Association of Pathologists Meet, Bangalore. January 27, 2008

Invited participant
Proteomics Meeting, Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology, Hyderabad. February 17-18, 2008

Invited speaker
Asian Institute of Gastroenterology, Hyderabad. February 21, 2008
Sri Sai Dental College, Vikarabad. February 22, 2008
Showcasing Science by Indian Women Scientist, Taskforce for Women in Science, Department of Science and Technology, Government of India, New Delhi. March 8, 2008

Kovai Vilas
International
Invited speaker
Strategic planning on replication of Vision Centre concept, International Center for EyeCare Education, Vision CRC, Sydney, Australia. April 23, 2007

Resource Person
Vision Centre Program Management in Asia Pacific Region and Sri Lanka, meetings with International Center for EyeCare Education, Vision CRC, Sydney, Australia. March 29-30, 2008

National
Organizer/Faculty
Continuing Education Workshop for vision technicians, ICARE – LVPEI, Kismatpur, Hyderabad. September 28-29, 2007

Presentation
October summit on Reaching the Unreached, SEVA foundation, USA, organized by LAICO, Madurai. October 6-8, 2007

Coordinator/Presenter
Workshop on Seeing is Believing, Vision Centre Project Meet supported by Standard Chartered Bank, LVPEI, Hyderabad. December 10–12, 2007

Jachin D Williams
National
Faculty
Indian alumni of ICEH London 2007 Symposium, Nellore, Andhra Pradesh. May 1, 2007

Coordinator/Video presentation

Convenor/Faculty
Scojo-LVPEI Vision Entrepreneurs Managers meeting, ICARE – LVPEI, Kismatpur, Hyderabad. December 1, 2007

Invited speaker

Convenor/Faculty

Organizer/Faculty
CEC & CBR Fieldworkers Training Program, ICARE – LVPEI, Thodukurthy and Hyderabad. February 5-6 and 18-22, 2008

Convenor/Faculty
Honors & Awards

Pisart Vision Award
Gullapalli N Rao, Chairman, LVPEI, was awarded the 2007 Pisart Vision Award for being an outstanding humanitarian and a respected ophthalmologist. The award was presented to him at the Lighthouse International headquarters in New York, USA, on November 15, 2007. Dr Tara Cortes, RN, PhD and President and CEO of Lighthouse International, said, “We are very honored to recognize Dr Rao for his outstanding commitment and contribution to the field of vision health care.” The Pisart Award is partially funded by Mme Georgette Pisart, a longtime Lighthouse volunteer.

University of Melbourne honors Dr Rao
Gullapalli N Rao was honored with a Doctor of Medicine (honoris causa) by the University of Melbourne on December 8, 2007. Professor Hugh Taylor, Chairman of the Department of Ophthalmology, University of Melbourne, Australia, said, “Dr Rao is an outstanding humanitarian, an internationally respected ophthalmologist, and a brilliant original thinker and strategist, whose work has improved eye care in India and throughout the world”.

Taraprasad Das
- Elected to Retina Section Program Committee, Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO), USA, for a three-year term (2007-2009) and will become the Program Committee Chairperson in 2009
- Krupajal Sanman -2008, Bhubaneswar, Orissa

Chitra Kannabiran
Appointed to Editorial Board of Journal of Genetics. October 2007

Raja Narayanan

V S Sangwan
- Achievement Award from the American Academy of Ophthalmologists, USA. 2007
- Appointed section editor, Cornea & External Disease, British Journal of Ophthalmology

International

Subhabrata Chakrabarti
- Invited to join Editorial Board of International Glaucoma Review (IGR)
- Received Association of International Glaucoma Societies (AIGS) travel fellowship to attend World Glaucoma Congress in Singapore. July 18-21, 2007
- Visiting faculty, Hamilton Glaucoma Center, University of California, San Diego, USA
- Member, WGA Award 2008 Committee, World Glaucoma Association
- Member, WGA Promulgation Committee, World Glaucoma Association

Roshmi Gupta
Best Paper, Orbit Session, Cutting Edge 2007, Joint meeting of Oculoplastics Association of India (OPAI) and Asia Pacific Society of Ophthalmic Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery (APSOPRS), Hyderabad. December 14-16, 2007

V S Sangwan
- Appointed Editorial Board Member of International Ophthalmology Journal
- Appointed to the international steering committee of LUX Biosciences for Uveitis and Corneal Transplantation drug development programs.

Sririsha Senthil
External peer reviewer for Ophthalmic Surgery and Lasers

Geeta Vemuganti
- Awarded 5 best photographs by the Ophthalmic Photographic Society at the American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery (ASCRS) symposium and congress, San Diego, California, USA, April 2 – May 3, 2007, in the following categories:
  - 1st Prize: Gross specimen photography (Inside the eye)
  - 2nd Prize: Gross specimen photography (Optic nerve glioma)
  - 3rd Prize: Gross specimen photography (Schwannoma)
  - 2nd Prize: Microphotography (Metastatic retina-blastoma, CSF fluid)
  - Honorable Mention: Microphotography (Asteroid Hyalosis)
- Advisor, Limbal stem cell project, Hospital Kuala Lumpur, and Institute for Medical Research, Malaysia
Subhabrata Chakrabarti
- Invited to join as Editorial Board Member of Journal of Current Glaucoma Practice
- Young Scientist Platinum Jubilee Award of the National Academy of Sciences India (NASI)

Santosh G Honavar
Received P Siva Reddy Award at All India Ophthalmological Society annual meeting, Bangalore. January 31 – February 3, 2008

Chitra Kannabiran
Received Andhra Pradesh Scientist Award 2008 in Medical Sciences from the AP State Council of Science and Technology

Ajit Babu Majji
- Best presentation award for ‘How to proceed after Vitrectomy/Vit. biopsy in patients of endophthalmitis’ from Delhi Ophthalmic Society, New Delhi. April 2007
- Elected Joint Secretary of All India Ophthalmological Society at AIOS annual meeting, Bangalore. January 31 – February 3, 2008

A K Mandal
Received gold medal for the Major SCDutta Memorial Oration at the XXXVIII Annual Conference of Ophthalmological Society of West Bengal, Malda. November 24-25, 2007

Gullapalli N Rao
Awarded ANR Swarna Kankanam 2007 award by Raga Saptha Swaram, a cultural social service organisation, on the occasion of Dr Akkineni Nageswara Rao’s 84th birthday. September 26, 2007

V S Sangwan

G Chandra Sekhar
Installed as President of Andhra Pradesh Ophthalmic Society (APOS) and Chairman of Ophthalmic Association of South Indian States (OASIS) at Tirupati. September 28-30, 2007

Rishi Swarup
Received Raghavachary award for Best Paper in the Dr Raghavachary Free Paper Session at the Andhra Pradesh Ophthalmic Society (APOS) and the Ophthalmic Association of Southern Indian States (OASIS) conference, Tirupati. September 28-30, 2007

Geeta K Vemuganti
- Elected fellow, National Academy of Medical Sciences. October 2007
- Member, Institutional BioSafety Committee, University of Hyderabad
- Member, Research Advisory Committee, Asian Institute of Gastroenterology

Afia Sultana, research scholar
Qualified for her PhD degree from Hyderabad Central University (HCU) for her thesis ‘Molecular genetic analysis of autosomal recessive corneal dystrophies’.

Soumyava Basu
Dr KR Dutta award for best free paper, Eastern India Zonal Ophthalmic Congress (EIZOC), Dhanbad. November 3-4, 2007

Taraprasad Das
- Received Honour award of Orissa Gourav Samman Ruchi Pratvita Foundation, Orissa. June 2007
- Received from Governor of Orissa ‘Krupajal Samman-2008’ given by Krupajal group of institutions for distinguished achievement in ophthalmology and outstanding contribution to the nation and state of Orissa in the field of medical science and social service. March 2, 2008

A K Mandal
Received Pascal Video Award for best video in Management of Glaucoma category at the Glaucoma Communique 2007, XVII annual conference, Glaucoma Society of India, Kolkata. December 7-9, 2007

Geeta K Vemuganti
- Elected fellow, National Academy of Medical Sciences. October 2007
- Member, Institutional BioSafety Committee, University of Hyderabad
- Member, Research Advisory Committee, Asian Institute of Gastroenterology

State

V S Sangwan
Delivered Dr AV Madangopal Oration on Limbal Stem Cells: Science and Practice at the Vidharbha Ophthalmic Society meeting, Nagpur. March 29, 2008

PVKS Varma
- Elected vice president of the Vision Aid Charitable Society (VACS), Visakhapatnam
- Invited to be executive member of Visakhapatnam Ophthalmic Association (VOA)

Merle Fernandes
Appointed Director of our GMR Varalakshmi campus, LVPEI, Visakhapatnam

Subhadra Jalali
Appointed Head of Retina Services of the Institute at Kallam Anji Reddy campus, Hyderabad, in November 2007
MK Medium
A total of 16,268 MK medium vials were produced during the year April 2007 to March 2008. We distributed 14,558 vials of MK medium to 120 national eye banks and two international eye banks.

Amniotic Membrane
Amniotic membrane pieces of specific sizes were made available to ophthalmologists including LVPEI alumni (fellows) for use in patients with ocular disorders requiring surface reconstruction surgeries and for research at LVPEI.
Surgery – 502 pieces (172 were distributed to LVPEI alumni fellows)
Research – 461

Distribution of MK Medium

Distribution of MK Medium

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Surgery – 502 pieces (172 were distributed to LVPEI alumni fellows)
Research – 461
So that they may see

The year reinforced our faith in ourselves and in those who have supported our vision. It also gave us the opportunity to draw encouragement from new quarters. Large grants for research from foundations and government bodies were supplemented by smaller, more specific donations from a variety of philanthropies. And, of course, significant support continues to come from all the individuals and institutions in the private and public sector that share our dreams.

Our Support

In each issue of our Activity Reports, we present profiles of our major supporters. In the next few pages we present reports of some generous individuals and dedicated organizations.

In the past issues, we have presented profiles of Mr Sreekanth Ravi and Mr Sudhakar Ravi of California, USA; Dr K Anji Reddy of Dr Reddy's Laboratories Limited, Hyderabad, India; Mr Subba Rao Makineni, California, USA; Mr P K Kanoria, Kolkata, India; Christoffel Blindenmission, Germany; Operation Eyesight Universal, Canada; Dr Jasti V Rattaiah & Mrs Jasti Ramanamma, USA; Carl Zeiss, Germany; Lavelle Fund for the Blind, Inc., USA; ORBIS International, USA; and BHP Billiton, Australia.
My father was a self-confident, hardworking, determined gentle person who, in a lifetime, not only built a world for himself and those around him but also a future for us,” says Kothapalli Kishore of his father, the late Kothapalli Rama Rao. “He was an extremely hospitable person who loved to be with people. Through the years there has been many an acquaintance that turned up at his doorstep to enjoy his hospitality and friendship. And yet he never expected anything in return. The amount of goodwill that our family enjoys today is purely because of him”.

From very humble beginnings that began with leasing a few rice mills around the town of Nidadavole, Mr Rama Rao rose to set up the first industry in his home town area. Today the people of Nidadavole remember the great humanitarian that he was and see the fruits of his service everyday through the colleges, hospitals et al that he brought to this small town.

Mr Rama Rao’s association with the Lions Clubs started in the late 1960s. His plans for building a team and a society extended to a series of lectures by people from different walks of life from across the country. At one such meeting addressed by the then Chairman of the State Small Industries Corporation Mr Rama Rao was motivated to start an asphaltic roofing factory. Thus was born Modern Roofings, the first industry in Nidadavole – a town that now boasts many a small industry.

Mr Rama Rao believed that women were unable to progress due to lack of exclusive educational facilities for them. He was the key donor and mover, along with Smt Rajeswari Ramakrishnan, in setting up a junior and degree college for women in Nidadavole way back in the early 80s.

When Lions International started their Sight First Project he was one of the first to offer to build a rural eye hospital in Nidadavole. It was conceived as a small Rs 35 lakh hospital on a 1500 sq yard plot of land. Mr CS Sastry, a benefactor of Rama Rao and a great friend of LVPEI, suggested that he suspend work on the project and arranged a meeting with Dr Gullapalli N Rao. The vision became grander and bigger. Infrastructural requirements were redrawn and Mr Rama Rao decided to donate a large and expensive family property to build the hospital. The rest is history. The “small” eye hospital became the first rural Secondary Eye Care Centre of LVPEI and morphed itself into the prestigious Rajeswari Ramakrishnan Lions Eye Hospital. Started in 1995 it continues to provide yeoman service to villagers in the area. According to Dr Gullapalli N Rao, the Institute found one of the most loyal and supportive friends in Mr Rama Rao.

By 1998 Mr Rama Rao ceased to actively participate in the business, handing it over to his sons. His focus was on the running of the eye centre and other social endeavours. One would see him everyday at the Smt Rajeshwari Ramakrishnan Lions Eye Centre talking to patients, taking care of them and always planning for the future. He was so deeply attached to this project that his last visit from his sick bed was to the hospital only.

A couple of years ago Mr Rama Rao walked into Dr Gullapalli N Rao’s office at LV Prasad Eye Institute along with his son, Kishore, and handed over a cheque to fund a new operating theatre complex. This was just another gesture embodying his simplicity and social commitment. Work, not publicity, was a guiding feature of his life.

Two decades back a gentleman from Gujarat who used to travel to coastal Andhra on business met Mr Rama Rao on a train and they began talking. On subsequent visits he and his family became Mr Rama Rao’s house guests. When Mr Rama Rao passed away in July, 2008 this gentleman’s family was part of the more than 10,000 people from all over the country who visited Nidadavole to bid farewell to a noble soul. “He touched all our lives by just befriending us,” said the businessman from Gujarat.
In the past few years, if one name has stood out in relation to infrastructure building in the state of Andhra Pradesh, it is the GMR Group. Whether it is the new airport in Hyderabad, the renovations in New Delhi and other cities, or in the improved highways that connect our cities and towns, the GMR logo has certainly created a presence. With the desire to make this success help influence lives marginalized by the very growth spurred by such infrastructure creation, Mr G Mallikarjuna Rao, Chairman of the GMR Group, established the GMR Varalakshmi Foundation. Named for the Chairman’s wife, the Foundation spearheads GMR Group’s social initiatives in education, empowerment, health and hygiene.

So when LVPEI began looking for partners to help take its tertiary care services to the state’s second city, Visakhapatnam, the Foundation stepped in as a natural partner. “As one for whom Hyderabad is virtually a second home, I could hardly have been unaware of the outstanding work being done by LVPEI for the society. Hence when they approached us for support, we did not have to think very hard,” says Mr Mallikarjuna Rao.

Today the Foundation, which began its work in 1991, has projects around the country with ongoing initiatives in Rajam, Rajahmundry, Chennai, Hyderabad, Delhi, Mangalore, Uttarakhand and Bangalore – mainly, in areas around the GMR Group’s projects.

GMRV Foundation also works with poor urban communities in several places. All programs in these places begin with a thorough study and analysis of the problems of the communities. Subsequently, the Foundation works closely with the community to overcome these hurdles.

“Both health and education are core to our CSR values,” explains Mr Rao. “What LVPEI is doing is educating people on eye care and providing them the best possible eye care facilities which are second to none in the world. Thus vision care, as an important aspect of overall healthcare and its educational element, fits very well with our CSR values.”

The Foundation works in over 50 villages aiming to promote participatory rural development and to strengthen village communities and their institutions. The interventions include:

• short-term measures like provision of water to meet daily needs, facilitation of transport for children of workers to attend examinations in their schools near the airport, mosquito-fogging, organization of health camps, programs for group building and goal setting, etc.

• long-term measures like skill training of youth for employment; improving the quality of education through the establishment of pre-schools, tuition centers, provision of scholarships, etc; formation of women’s self-help groups and exploring home-based work options; opening a clinic, etc; and

• facilitation of service provision including working with the authorities to expedite creation of quality infrastructure including water, sewage, street lighting, etc.

Working with a partner like LVPEI is something that helps enhance the Foundation’s work and takes it further in a key area like health. An agreement on core values such as excellence and equity give the partnership a strong basis and make for matching expectations. “Our expectations from this partnership are nothing beyond what LVPEI is already doing,” says Mr Rao. “And that it will carry on the good work for a long, long time!”

Mrs GMR Varalakshmi visits LVPEI, Visakhapatnam
Prasad Nimmagadda, a success saga of the new generation entrepreneurial spirit in India, made a humble beginning in his career in 1984 as a management trainee in Indian Molasses Company. Born into an Army officer’s family in 1961, Mr Prasad pursued his education in Hyderabad and Delhi. He earned Masters degrees in Science and Business Administration. After gaining a rich professional experience of over 15 years in multinational and Indian companies, Mr Prasad became an entrepreneur in the year 2000 by acquiring a local ailing enterprise. He made his dream venture, Matrix Laboratories, one of the major pharmaceutical companies in India within a span of six years incorporating the values of cost leadership, product differentiation and a global footprint.

In 2006, Matrix Laboratories aligned with Mylan Laboratories to create the world's third largest Generic Pharmaceutical Company. Mr Prasad represents Mylan Laboratories as a member of the Board of Directors and Matrix Laboratories as a Non-executive Vice Chairman.

Known for his visionary thinking, strategic insights and execution capabilities, Mr Prasad earned ‘Fastest Wealth Creator’ award to Matrix Laboratories consecutively for three years from 2004 to 2006. Recognizing the achievements, the Government of Andhra Pradesh bestowed Matrix Laboratories with the "Best Management Award” in 2006.

With a ‘Social Face’ to the business enterprise, Mr Prasad launched ‘Project Hope’ in 2003 at Matrix Laboratories to develop cost-efficient processes to reduce the prices of HIV/AIDS drugs significantly. He also signed a historic agreement with the Clinton HIV/AIDS Initiative (CHAI). Matrix currently provides medication for over 35% of HIV/AIDS patients in the developing world at very affordable prices.

In 2008, Mr Prasad initiated a mega infrastructure project under the umbrella of VANPIC for the development of a world-class port-based integrated industrial corridor in the coastal region of Andhra Pradesh to redefine the rural economy through Rural Economic Zones. The mega venture is expected to transform the hitherto agri-based Guntur and Prakasam districts of Andhra Pradesh into major industrial hubs.

Identifying potential growth opportunities, Mr Prasad diversified into several growth sectors and made significant investments in cement, power, healthcare (hospitals), media, infrastructure development and hospitality businesses.

Mr Prasad believes in the power of collective wisdom and the participative management approach. He strongly believes that wealth and knowledge are enhanced only when they are shared.

Philanthropy and the entrepreneurial spirit go hand in hand with him. His inherent compassion for the economically underprivileged combined with a philanthropic spirit prompted Mr Prasad to set up Nimmagadda Foundation – an organization that aims to work in areas such as healthcare, education, sanitation, livelihoods and housing for the poor.


Mr Prasad firmly believes that the well-being of the child is linked to the well-being of the society at large. “While children are the hope for parents at the family level, they are the hope for society as well if we look at the macro level”.

According to Mr Prasad, “LVPEI is one of the charity organizations with highly committed people and excellent delivery mechanisms. It has set the standards in eye care treatment and research in the last 20 years. Its efforts to provide excellent eye care at affordable cost to all the segments of the society, irrespective of their financial status, made us close to the institution. Every rupee that supports the cause is worth several times of that when it is extended through LVPEI.”

Supporting as many children as possible in the areas of healthcare and education is part of the Nimmagadda Foundation’s social service initiative. The Foundation aims to play a much bigger role in the years to come in this area.
For millions of people in need around the world, the humanitarian outreach program of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints/Latter Day Saint Charities (LDS Charities) offers hope and the potential for a life that transcends disease, poverty, and despair. One way the Church participates in programs that alleviate poverty, hunger and disease is collection and distribution of food, clothes, medical supplies, relief items and finances, resources that are pre-positioned in key locations for shipping on short notice in times of emergency. The Church also helps with volunteers who often make the most difference in restoring hope in the lives of those in crisis, such as victims of natural disasters.

One of the key areas of LDS Charities under the Humanitarian Services is Vision.

To reach out to the countless individuals worldwide whose lives are impacted by the loss of sight that could be addressed with simple medical procedures the LDS Charities Vision Program assists medical care providers with training and equipment to treat vision problems. Using ophthalmologists who volunteer their time, the Church has served 30,000 individuals since 2003 at a cost of $1.7 million (USD).

In 2006, the Church provided vision treatment in 16 locations, including Cambodia, Chile, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ecuador, Egypt, Ghana, Guyana, Jamaica, Kiribati, Mongolia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Nigeria, Paraguay, and Thailand.

In India LDS Charities has also been working with LVPEI to set up rural primary eye care centers in the state of Andhra Pradesh. Each of these primary care centers reaches out to a population of 50,000 in a radius of about 10 km. The support from LDSC provides for the training of the vision technician who runs the vision centre as also the required equipment. Till date LDSC has supported 8 vision centres in the Adilabad District of Andhra Pradesh. Apart from the vision centre project LDSC has supported the work of LVPEI’s Vision Rehabilitation Centres and the community eye health program as well as providing wheelchairs to patients who are physically challenged.

LDSC has also supported the printing of eye health manuals that were prepared by ICARE for field workers as also Vision Rehabilitation’s manual on assisted software for use by visually impaired persons.

Working closely with LDSC the LVPEI team plans to add a further 30 vision centres in Andhra Pradesh in the next few years.
Your support makes it possible for all to see...

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Mrs Pratibha & Dr Gullapalli N Rao, India
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Institute for Eye Research, Australia
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Mrs Shivani & Mr S K Roy, India
Mr Sukumar Roy, India
Mr Pirati Saiababu, India
Mr Shakti Sagar, India
Mr B N Bhui Dev, India
Mr Acmraj Ben Dhirajalal Sanghavi, India
Mr Mahesh P Sanghvi, India
Dr Virender S Sangwan, India
Mrs V Saraswathi, India
Mr V V Chalapathi Sarma, India
Mr K R Sarma, India
Mr Capt Surya Prasad Seethapathi, India
Mr Subrata Sen, India
Mr B R Sethna, India
Mr S Satyanarayana Setty, India
Mrs & Dr I C Shah, USA
Mrs Rukhmani Gardi & Mr Vandana J Shah, India
Dr M Shalini, India
Mrs Usha & Dr Shamanna, India
Dr Padmaja Shankaridurg, Australia
Mr M B Sharma, India
Mrs Lakshmi Shinde, India
Dr Ashok C Shroff, India
Mr Rajiv Shroff, India
Mrs Meenakshi Singh, India
Ms Ritu Singh, India
Dr Sunil Kumar Singh, India
Mr Vinod Singh, India
Mrs & Mr Radhey Shyam Singh, India
Mr Kishan Singh, India
Dr J Snehalatha, India
Mr Jai Kishan Somani, India
Mr S Somasegar, India
Mrs Gyana Devi Sonaji, India
Mrs Kuchakulla Sowbhagya, India
Dr P Sridhar, India
Mr B Srinivas, India
Dr P Sriramulu, India
Mr Sadanant Sathyarthi, India
Dr C Subbarayudu, India
Mr T G Subramaniam, India
Dr Nirmala Subramaniam, India
Mrs Sugandham, India
Mr M Sukumaran, India
Dr Sham Sunder, India
Mr Subhash Surana, India
Mr Y Suryanarayana, India
Ms T Swarna, India
Late Mr Deepak Taneja, India
Dr S Telgaonkar, USA
Mrs Savitaben D Thakker, India
Drs Jaimala & Kishen Thanik, USA
Mrs & Dr Nalin Tolia, USA
Mrs Nita & Mr Nalin J Unakar, USA
Dr Mustal V Vaghi, India
Ms A Vanathi, India
Mr Brian Valentine, India
Mr P V K S Varma, India
Mr Rao S Varonari, South Africa
Mr Nandlal M Verma, India
Dr Prateep Vyas, India
Dr Saradani VyAs, India
Dr Sangeeta Wagh, India
Ariez Kovathala Memorial Trust, India
Arudra Engineers Pvt Ltd, India
Banjara Hills Ladies Group, India
Century Fiber Plates Pvt Ltd, India
Choice Marketing Company, India
Classic Traders (P) Ltd, India
C S Construction Company, India
Denis Chem Lab Limited, India
E John Kurivila Memorial Charitable Trust, India
Eon Designers, India
G P Associates, India
Harvin Scientific Optics Pvt Ltd, India
Hirlekar Precision Engg Pvt Ltd, India
Jain Housing, India
Karodimal Bansal & Sons, India
KBJ Enterprises, India
Kedia Agrotech Pvt Ltd, India
Khan Bahadur Babukhan Foundation, India
Khilani Constructions Pvt Ltd, India
Khurana Engineering Pvt Ltd, India
K V R Projects Pvt Ltd, India
Kumar Raja Projects Pvt Ltd, India
Lawrence Mayo (Opticals), India
Margadarsi Chit Fund Ltd, India
Meda Charitable Foundation, India
Metrobio Caeiro, India
Microsoft India Pvt Ltd, India
Modi Nagar Enterprises, India
Naveen Paper Stores, India
Quick Builders, Engineers & Contractors, India
Raveula Doors & Decors, India
Ravi Associates, India
Seth Chiranjal Khaitan Trust, India
Shalimar Chemical Charitable Trust, India
Shanti Devi Mansighka Trust, India
Shree Annai Coirs, India
Shree Automobiles Pvt Ltd, India
Shriram Chits Pvt Ltd, India
Siva Traders, India
SKAA Vilas, India
Sneh Pharmaceuticals, India
Spectra Shares & Scrips Limited, India
S R Kamath & Co, India
Sree Krishna Constructions, India
Sree Venkateswara Coir Works, India
Sri Upadresto Narayana Rao Charitable Trust, India
State Bank of Hyderabad, India
Strategic Insurance Services Pvt Ltd, India
S V C Projects Pvt Ltd, India
Tameer Consulting Associates, India
Vikash Solnexitrects Ltd, India
Support during the year

Ahmedabad
Dr Abhay R Vasavada

Akola
Dr Anurag Mathur

Angul, Orissa
NTPC Limited

Asansol
Mr Chandra Anurima

Bangalore
Mr Ajay Gumadi
Mr Ravi Venkatesan
Alcon Laboratories (I) Pvt Ltd
Biomedix Optotechnik & Devices Pvt Ltd
GMR Holdings Pvt Ltd
The Indian Society of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
Mphasis Limited

Bhubaneswar
Dr Sanghamitra Dash
Dr Mahendra Prasad Tripathy
Cleen N Cleen
Vision Care

Bhopal
Mr Nitesh Jain

Chennai
Dr N Venkataswami Chetty Charitable Trust

Dehra Dun
Ms Usha Rani Datta

Gulbarga
Mr Bhakti Rahul Malu

Jaipur
Mr Ajeet Birani

Jalgoan
Mr Pannalal Bhandari

Jamshedpur
Mr Debasish Gupta

Karnataka
Mr Y Venkata Ratnam

Khammam
Mr Y Bucchi Babu & Friends

Kolkata
Mr Aditya Dalmika
Celebrity Management Group
Emami Foundation
Moina Merit Private Limited
P K Business Enterprise Limited
Sajjan Savitri Agarwal Charity Trust
Shantidevi-Mahavir Prasad Mansingh Ka Trust
Shree Radha Krishna Goenka Trust

Mumbai
Mr Ramni Lal Aditiah
Mr Shirish Rajendra Barwale
Mr Sunder T Bhagari
Mr Lal Gehi
Ms Richa Gehi
Mr Prasana Nadkarni

Mr Teja Nadkarni
Mr Rushikesh Parekh
Ms Sangeetha V Sathe
Mr Behram R Sethna
Mr Vijay Dattaram Vengulekar
Bhogilal Leherchand Foundation
Raja Bahadur Motilal Bansilal Charitable Trust Fund
Sight Savers International

New Delhi
Ms Poonam Gupta
Mr Awthar Singh Marwaha
Mr Maitreyee Narendra
Mr Sumangal Narendra
Dr G V Rao
Dr Mukesh Taneja

Rajasthan
Mr L K Daga

Vadodara
Intra Ocular Care Pvt Ltd

Valsad
Mr Pragnesh Kantilal Cheheda

Vijayawada
Ms A Swarna Kumari

Visakhapatnam
Mr P Hara Gopal
Ms Sushma Kalidindi
Mr Varanasi Srikrishna

International

Australia
Mr Andrea Stern & Larry Hulbert

Canada
Mr Steve Jenner
Mr Gul Mohd Kapadia

Kuala Lumpur
Ms Subarna Chakaravarthy Prabhaker

Nairobi, Kenya
Chetan, Deepan & Shainal Patel

United Kingdom
Mr Stephen Murray
Mr Gopala Krishna Ramaswamy

United States of America
Ms Vijaya Vardhan Bodhe
Ms Kristen Getschmann
Ms Archana Patwari
Hyderabad

Mr Anne Adinarayana
Mr T S R Anjaneyulu
Mr Ramesh Anantharaman
Mr Mohammed Ariff
Mr J Balaji
Dr D Balasubramanian
Mr S J Balasundaram
Ms Mahtab S Bamji
Ms C Chitra Bhanu
Mr K Bhanumurti
Ms M Bharati
Ms C Syamala Bhaskaran
Mr Randhir Kumar Bhatnagar
Mr Ulhas Bidayat
Mr Vamsi Krishna Cherukuri
Mr D Satya Devarath
Ms J Sarojini Devi
Ms Perin B Dittia
Mr S J Balasundaram
Ms Usha Gangrade
Dr Prashant Garg
Ms Kalpana Garigipati
Mr Ajay Gogia
Mr Sreeasreshu Gopikrishna
Mr Mayank Gupta
Mr Tarun Gupta
Mr Nitesh Jai
Mr K Hari Krishna
Mr K Sivarama Krishna
Mr Kishore K Kothapalli
Mr Chetan Kumar
Mr Rajiv Kumar
Mrs S Renuka & Mr S Vijaya Kumar
Mr Sridhar Metlumi
Mr M K Bhanu Murthy
Mr KSR Murthy
Mr Vempati Narasimha
Mr G Lakshmi Narayana
Dr Raja Narayanan
Mr YVS Narayana
Ms Uma Nath
Mr Sathvik Nookala
Mr Raymond Stephen Noronha
Ms Valerie Noranha
Mr K Bhanu Murthy
Ms P Padamaja
Mr T Padmanabhan
Ms Shirley Parker
Ms Sreedevi Penmetcha

Mr P S Prabhatkar
Ms A Prabhawathi
Mr T S R Prasad
Justice Ranga Rajan
Ms L Rajitha
Master A Raju
Mr K Gopi Raju
Mr Vankina Sri Rakesh
Mr C Ramalingam
Ms Vijaya L Ramam
Ms K Sudha Rani
Mr N P Rama Rao
Dr P Rama Rao
Prof Kakarla Subha Rao
Baby Sudheshna Reddy
Mr Rishab
Master Rohan
Mr M V Krishna Sastry
Ms Satya
Mr M Archana Shailaja
Mr Sri Devendar Signodia
Mr C Srinivasulu
Ms YSRLH Sudha
Ms Sunaina
Mr S Thirumalai
Mr Kamal Chand Triputraneni
Ms Umanath
ACC Limited
Agro Tech Foods Ltd
Alliance Medical Systems
Andhra Bank
Bhagwan Gangaram Kotwari
Fernandez Hospital
Lal Construction Company
Lions Club of Hyderabad Majestic
Kode Venkatadri Chowdari Charitable Society
Natco Pharma Limited
NLR Property Developers Pvt Ltd
Parekh Distributors
Prasad Film Laboratories
Prasad Film Productions
Ravindranath Gen Medical Associates Pvt Ltd
Reacon Industry Pvt Ltd
Sai Sri Printers
Sree Mitra Townships Pvt Ltd
Suha Devi Poddar Charitable Trust
Summit Furnitures
The Wednesday Club of Hyderabad
Verma Consultancy Services
Our International & National Linkages

**International**

Alcon, USA; Allergan, USA; Barlumeus, The Netherlands; Bausch & Lomb, USA; Bristol Eye Bank, Bristol Eye Hospital, Bristol, UK; Cambridge University, UK; Carl Zeiss, Germany; Centre for Eye Research Australia, Melbourne, Australia; Centre for Eye Research & Technology, Australia; Centre of Excellence in Molecular Biology, Lahore, Pakistan; Champalimaud Foundation, Portugal; Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, University of Pennsylvania, USA; Children's Hospital of Florida, USA; Christoffel Blindennissung, Germany; Cornea & Contact Lens Research Unit, Australia; Combat Blindness Foundation, USA; Duke University, Durham, USA; Eye Sight International, Vancouver, Canada; Fred Hollows Foundation, Australia; Fund Incorporated, Australian Federation of University Women (AFUW) and Queensland branch, Australia; Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, USA; Institute of Eye Research, Sydney, Australia; International Federation of Eye & Tissue Banks, Baltimore, USA; International Center for Eye Care Education, Australia; International Association for Contact Lens Education, Australia; Islamia Eye Hospital, Dhaka, Bangladesh; J2 Foundation, Texas, USA; Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, USA; Jules Stein Eye Institute, University of California, Los Angeles, USA; Lighthouse International, New York, USA; Lions International, Australia; London School of Tropical Hygiene & Medicine, UK; Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary, Boston, USA; Moorfields Eye Hospital, London, UK; National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD, USA; National Institute of Sensory Organs, Tokyo, Japan; Northwest Lions Eye Bank, Seattle, USA; Northwestern University, Evanston, IL, USA; Ohio State University, Columbus, USA; Operation Eye Sight Universal, Canada; ORBIS International, New York, USA; Pharmacia & Upjohn, Sweden; Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, Australia; Rotary International, USA; SUNY School of Optometry, New York, USA; Santen Inc., USA; Service de Biologie Cinetique Institut Salakh Azaiiz, Tunisia; Sight Savers International, UK; State University of Rochester, USA; Tel Aviv University, Israel; The Hadley School for the Blind, Illinois, USA; The Tun Hussein On National Eye Hospital and the Malaysian Association for the Blind, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia; Tubero, Sendai University, Japan; Tufts University of Medicine, Boston, MA, USA; The Cooperative Research Center for Eye Research & Technology, Australia; University of Aberdeen, Scotland, UK; University of Florida, Gainesville, FL, USA; University of Heidelberg, Germany; University of London, UK; University of Melbourne, Melbourne, Australia; University of Nottingham, Nottingham, UK; University of New South Wales, Australia; University of Ottawa, Canada; University of Rochester, School of Medicine and Dentistry, Rochester, USA; University of South Carolina, USA; University of Tennessee, Memphis, Tennessee, USA; University of Rochester Eye Institute, University of Rochester, New York, USA; University of Waterlooo, Canada; Vanderbilt University, USA; Vision CRC, Australia; Wills Eye Hospital, USA; World Health Organization, Switzerland; William Beaumont Hospital, Michigan, USA; Yayasan Penyayut Wyata Guna, Indonesia.

**National**

Action on Disability and Development India, Bangalore; Ali Yavar Jung National Institute for the Hearing Handicapped, Secunderabad; Anthropological Survey of India, Hyderabad; Aravind Eye Hospital System, Madurai; Benares Hindu University, Varanasi; Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Mumbai; Bio-Medix Optotechnik & Devices Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore; Birla Institute of Technology and Science, Pilani Blind Peoples Association, Ahmedabad; Calcutta University, Kolkata; CBR Forum, Bangalore; Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology, Hyderabad; Centre for DNA Fingerprinting and Diagnostics, Hyderabad; Centre for Human Genetics, Bangalore; Consolidated Products Corporation Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi; Council for Advancement of People's Action, New Delhi; Council of Scientific & Industrial Research, Government of India, New Delhi; Department of Biotechnology, Government of India, New Delhi; Department of Science & Technology, Government of India, New Delhi; Eye Bank Association of India, Hyderabad; Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar; Holy Cross College, Tiruchirappalli; Indian Council for Medical Research, New Delhi; Indian Institute of Chemical Biology, Kolkata; Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata; International Human Resource Development Centre, Coimbatore; Indian Institute of Information Technology, Hyderabad; Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore; Indian Institute of Technology, Chennai; Indian Orthocane Surgicals, Chennai; Jammu University, Jammu; Milmet Laboratories Pvt. Ltd., Ahmedabad; Micro Vision, Ahmedabad; National Association for the Blind, Mumbai; National Brain Research Centre, Gurgaon; National Institute for Mentally Handicapped, Secunderabad; National Institute for the Visually Handicapped, Dehradun; National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences, Bangalore; National Institute of Nutrition, Hyderabad; Sankara Nethralaya, Chennai; Sir Ratan Tata Trust, Mumbai; Thakur Hari Prasad Institute for Research and Rehabilitation of Mentally Handicapped, Hyderabad; The Helen Keller Institute for Deaf and Deafblind, Mumbai; University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad; VIMTA Laboratories, Hyderabad; Vision Research Foundation, Chennai.